

## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

The Jasper County Council met this date at 8:30 A.M. C.S.T. in the Commissioner's Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Rein Bontreger, Gerrit H. DeVries, John T. Price, Andrew Andree, Stephen Jordan, Gary Fritts and Paul Norwine. Also present was Kimberly K. Grow, Jasper County Auditor, and Tina Porter, Deputy Auditor. Mr. Bontreger called the meeting to order.

JUDGE POTTER: Mr. Potter was present and stated that there are two things he'd like to discuss about the budget. He stated that he always leaves the salary raises up to the Council. Last year there was a two-tiered raise and he believes that it caused a lot of bad feelings and tension. He hopes that it won't happen again. It puts him in a bad position because he feels he has to lobby for his employees against other people's employees. He stated that Circuit Court is doing, on state average, the work of 1.42 courts, which is about 50% higher than Superior Court. He believes it's due to the juvenile cases, which Superior Court does not handle. There's been twelve CHINS cases since Wednesday, August 10, 2016.

Katie Hall, the Director of CASA, is classified as salary exempt. Four months ago, the Federal Government said that in order for an employee to be salary exempt, as of December 1, 2016, you now have to pay them \$47,540 or you have to pay them overtime and comp time. Right now, there are seventy CASA cases. CASA's are volunteers, except Ms. Hall, who is paid to be the Director. If there were no CASA's, then public defenders would have to be used. On the state-mandated public defender case load system, fifty CHINS cases is a full-time equivalent. The CASA's are saving us two full time defenders, which is \$90,000. Judge Potter suggests making Ms. Hall's salary match the \$47,540 because she does multiple trainings a year. To certify a new class of CASA's, it's thirty hours of training plus prep time. She puts in over one-hundred hours per year after hours just doing the training. He states that he's done the math and, looking at her current salary in addition to paying her overtime compared to the \$47,540, it's only about a nickel difference. Estimating how much she would have been paid with overtime, it would have been about \$47,800. She meets all the legal requirements of a salary exempt employee.

Judge Potter addressed Mr. Andree regarding the ceiling in the court. He stated that the ceiling isn't leaking anymore after the new roof, except right above his bench. He believes that may involve the air conditioning unit. He has a lot of water damaged ceiling tiles, but isn't sure if that would be a whole courthouse project, rather than just his court. Mr. Andree replied that he went in to every office and measured and counted each damaged tile and looked at the stability of them. He thinks there were approximately 300 tiles. He then went to the Commissioners who told him to hold off because there is going to be other work done on the heating system. Judge Potter replied that he believes the work on the heating system is finished and he thinks this is something that the Commissioners need to address.

Mr. Price addressed Judge Potter regarding the statement he made about being concerned if we pay people that are considered superior performers a little more that there will be hard feelings. Mr. Price stated that he doesn't deny that the CASA instructor works hard. He said he thinks a lot of people work hard. He continued by saying that she would be making as much, if not more, than most elected officials and way more than most deputies. He said he thinks if someone is performing in a superior way, everyone has the opportunity to achieve that. The idea was to give people an incentive. It would be easier just to give everybody the same thing. It's simpler, but he doesn't think that's a good excuse. Judge Potter replied that it puts him in the Director's position and he has to work with Superior Court and come down here and has one thing to compare with and his court is doing 150 % of the work as Superior Court so they should be paid more. He said that is a bad position to put him and Judge Ahler in and fosters unnecessary hardships and it gets reported back. That was his point with what happened last year and he doesn't want to be in that position. He said he will happily defend his employees and say they do excellent work, because they do. Mr. Price replied that he doesn't think it's right for an employee that is putting forth way extra effort to get the same raise as someone they see doing half what they do. That is a morale problem, too. Judge Potter replied that, as a Director who has to deal with the council, it puts him in an unenvial position.

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**JUDGE POTTER CONT'D:** He said that he's lucky in the judicial system because he has math that's measured by the State that he can point to. Mr. Bontreger added that obviously what factored in to it is that Judge Potter has been working with three employees instead of four. He asked Judge Potter if he was informing the council that Katie Hall is definitely a salary exempt person and we are obligated to the \$47,500 or if that is just a suggestion. Judge Potter replied that she is salary exempt now. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, she will not be because Federal law changed, which states salary exempt has to be paid \$47,500. Mr. Bontreger asked if we don't pay her \$47,500 would her classification just change to hourly. Judge Potter replied yes, but she would get paid almost that amount anyways because she can't take two months off work for comp time because of the way the work goes. Mr. Price stated that if she puts the extra time in and it's absolutely necessary, it would cause less problems to pay her the overtime she's earned than it would be to raise her salary higher. Mr. Jordan asked about compensatory time. That has to be considered towards their pay, correct, to which Judge Potter replied yeah. Mr. Jordan said in 2016, Judge Potter has just under \$17,000 and the other court has \$0. Judge Potter replied that he doesn't want to speak for the other court system, but he believes they pay overtime as it's earned. That's the way it always been done over there. They do it differently. He said he'd be happy to pay overtime every two weeks as it's earned, if the Council prefers. He said they try to use the comp time up as the county wants, but with the huge case load and the CHINS, he's unable to get it done. He said that he's not trying to be critical, he would just like to encourage the Council to not put him in the position of having to compare his court to Judge Ahler's court. Mr. Price stated that there's going to be issues over something no matter what, so maybe it's better to pick the issue rather than being surprised. Mr. Potter replied that it's fine whatever they decide to do, but there's one way where it's a fixed cost at \$47,540 and there's one way where it's an unknown cost because of changes in the Federal guidelines. Mr. Jordan stated that there are a couple other plusses and minuses that are pretty big. He asked Mr. Potter about the juvenile probation officer being way down. He wanted to know if that was a change of personnel or a change of funding source. Mr. Bontreger stated that it is a different funding source. Judge Potter said yes, part of it is paid by probation user fees plus Mike Sinks retired last year and now he's replaced with a new probation officer so it's much lower. Mr. Jordan stated that the other was Probation Officer 3, and wanted to know if that was the same type of change. Judge Potter replied that 3 is Mr. Sinks. Judge Potter stated that unfortunately, they had to get rid of a probation officer and replace them with a new one. He stated that they have two new people. Mr. Jordan asked if the part-time probation officer was an additional position he's requesting. Judge Potter replied that when Mr. Sinks retired, that left an opening and then a few weeks later they had to get rid of the other person unexpectedly. He believes he came back to the Council to move money around because, after 30 days, they hired Mr. Sinks back part-time so they could make ends meet until they could get the two new people hired and trained. Mr. Sinks is no longer working part-time so they have no need for a part-time probation officer. Mr. Fritts stated that the pay raises that Judge Potter is requesting are different percentages. Judge Potter stated that the probation raise is set by the State so he put a percentage in for his employees based upon the Council's discretion. Auditor Grow asked if there were any questions regarding probation. Judge Potter stated that it's the same budget. He stated that they don't collect a lot of fees. The biggest expense to come out of it is when a juvenile needs medical treatment when they're taken to the facility. Jasper County has a contract with Porter and Lake Counties. We also spend money to have off-duty police officers supervise when they are doing community service work. The extradition is the same as last year. Judge Potter stated that a lot of times, they can recover some of the money, but it's just a cost of doing business. Auditor Grow stated that it is a straight \$10,000 that he asked for.

**ATTORNEY SAMMONS / PUBLIC DEFENDER BUDGET:** Attorney Sammons was present to discuss the public defender budget, along with Judge Ahler and Judge Potter. Attorney Sammons stated that there are only changes to two line items. The first is under Additional Attorney's Conflict Counsel and is an increase from \$10,000 to \$11,000. Applicable to the public defenders as well are the increased number of CHINS and TPR cases. Over a year ago, there was a mandate that states that every juvenile gets an attorney, whether they can afford one or not. Mr. Bontreger asked if the increases for those are a set amount mandated by the state, to which Attorney Sammons replied no.

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ATTORNEY SAMMONS / PUBLIC DEFENDER BUDGET CONT'D: He stated that he talked to some of the public defenders and they felt their caseload had increased over the last year. Some of the salary requests he received were a lot higher than what he asked for, which is 3%. He said he did ask Auditor Grow what range county employees were asking for. Mr. Bontreger asked what the average case load is that the public defenders are carrying these days. Mr. Ahler replied that the overall number of criminal cases statewide has seen a little bit of a dip, but what they are seeing is a higher number of higher rated felonies, burglaries involving drugs, almost combine drugs with everything, family law and theft cases so some of the cases are taking longer. Judge Potter stated that we get back 40% of eligible expenses, which is why they divide them up between felony and misdemeanor because that is shorthand for reimbursable and non-reimbursable. CHINS and juvenile cases are reimbursable. In order to get reimbursed, we have to stay within the State's guidelines. Judge Ahler stated that if we were to get rid of one of the public defenders, it would push up the caseload of every other public defender and thus throwing us out of compliance with the Public Defender Commission, thereby not getting the State to kick in any money for us and we would actually end up losing money. Mr. Norwine asked if there's a rotation where every person is in line for the next case or is it more where the attorneys are assigned months. Judge Potter and Attorney Sammons replied that it is done in line. Mr. Norwine asked if the load is getting significant enough that they will need to be asking for another public defender. Judge Ahler replied that we are in compliance now, but with the advent of what's going on with the CHINS and TPR cases, he said the Public Defender Commission is giving everyone a grace period to see if this may be temporary or something we are going to need to adjust to. The grace period will probably close the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the next year. The short answer is not yet, but maybe.

PAT DONNELLY / VETERAN'S BUDGET: Mr. Donnelly was present to discuss the Veteran's budget. He stated that as far as his office budget is concerned, it's pretty good as is. He said that one big thing he's asking for is regarding the young Veteran he has working for his office part-time. He said this employee pretty much covers outreach, distribution and a number of different things. He is presently paid by the VA through a work study program since he's going to college. He will finish up his schooling in May and has expressed an interest to continue working with Mr. Donnelly. He said he could get another part-time job once he finishes school, but Mr. Donnelly would like to see that part-time position made permanent. He stated that they have more than enough work for both of them to do and there are no idle hours. They are trying to follow some of the directives put out by the IDVA that concern outreach programs and things of that nature and are trying to expand that in the county. He approximates, based on numbers from the State, that there are about 2,600 veterans in the county. Each month he has an average of 1 ½ Veterans come in that are moving here from another county. That number is increasing constantly. He stated that they also have people coming back that need benefits. Mr. Fritts asked if the \$11,500 needs to be bumped up to \$11,760 and Mr. Donnelly replied yes. Mr. Bontreger and Auditor Grow stated that they can't give more than what is requested. Mr. Bontreger stated that later on, if he runs out, he can do an additional, but they are capped at what's mentioned. Mr. Donnelly stated that what he asked for may work, in case the employee takes a little bit of time off. Mr. Donnelly stated that it was figured at \$15.00 an hour and he believes presently the position is \$14.00 an hour because he was not sure what was going to happen with raises. Mr. Price stated that everyone always talks about doing more for our Veterans so it's nice to have a chance to actually do something and he thinks it's a terrific idea. Mr. Bontreger added that Mr. Donnelly did a nice job on the car show in Demotte that benefits the Veterans. Mr. Donnelly stated that Fieldhouse Ford has agreed to make that an annual event for them. He stated that the money raised in the events goes to the Veteran's Council and they in turn use that money to help Veterans in need. Mr. Donnelly stated that he works hand in hand with Helping Hands. Mr. Price stated that he's talked to people in other counties who say that Jasper County has one of the best Veteran's Affairs offices in the state. Mr. Fritts seconded that and said that he's talked to people in other states that don't offer any services like Jasper County does. Mr. Fritts stated that he'd like to commend Mr. Donnelly and stated that he's doing a terrific job.

BETH WARREN / RECORDER'S BUDGET: Mrs. Warren was present to discuss the Recorder's budget. She requested a raise for herself and her deputy. She stated that they are still in the process, and will be for at least 3 years, of getting images on the computer back to 1962. She said that she, along with Karen Wenrick and Linda Stevens, will be doing the indexing.

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BETH WARREN / RECORDER'S BUDGET CONT'D: She stated that she has \$23,000 left to pay on the project, which will come out of her perpetuation fund. She said her supplies are going to remain the same as it just about gets her through the year. Mr. Andree asked if she had summer help and she replied that she did last year. They re-jacketed all the micro-film jackets because they were so old and needed to be done in order for the scanning company to scan them.

### Perpetuation fund

She stated that she has \$23,000 left to pay on her project and her annual software bill is \$17,000.

### Elected official training

The laws have changed, but in the past she stated she would divide the amount between five of them on the first of the year and they would all get that amount to use for their training, but she believes since the laws have changed, it stays in that fund. Mr. Fritts stated that Mrs. Warren hasn't been using much of that for the training. She replied that the Commissioners pay for all State meetings. Auditor Grow stated that there are stipulations on it. Mr. Fritts asked if we need to hold it in the \$8,000 range. Auditor Grow replied yes and stated that it's collected by fees. Mrs. Warren confirmed and said she believes it is \$0.50 per document.

CARLA ANDERSON / TREASURER'S BUDGET: Mrs. Anderson was present to discuss the Treasurer's budget. She stated that this budget is less than it was last year, having cut \$4,000 out of this budget. She said that she has gotten together with Donya Jordan and explained to her what she'd done. She stated that she went back over the last 5 years and looked at what she'd used versus what she'd requested and decreased it by that amount. The office supplies are going from \$1600.00 down to \$1,330.00. She said she told Mrs. Jordan that unless something goes drastically wrong in her office, she will have a large amount that Mrs. Jordan can encumber to be able to buy stamps and envelopes and such for next year. She stated that she is asking for a 5.4% raise. The 4% raise is what the council gave last year to most offices plus the 1.4% that the treasurer's office did not get last year to make up what the pay discrepancies are. Mrs. Anderson asked Mrs. Jordan if she's ok with what she has done with the budget request and Mrs. Jordan replied yes. Mr. Fritts stated that what Mrs. Anderson is requesting is actually a 6.4% raise and she replied that it was her error. Mr. Bontreger told her nice job on the savings.

ANDY BOERSMA / CORONER'S BUDGET: Mr. Boersma was present to discuss the Coroner's budget. He stated that they still have the new Administrative Assistant/Deputy Coroner. This person works at the annex for 29 hours a week. She works the off hours that she isn't working for the Sheriff, that way it's covered 5 days a week. She is allowed to work on Sheriff business while she is on the clock for the Coroner if someone comes in and vice versa. He stated that they still have the Deputy Coroner training. The Child Fatality Review Team is the same as it was last year. He stated that not much has changed in the budget. Mr. Bontreger asked about the autopsy being bumped up to \$5,000. Mr. Boersma replied that it's because they went from \$1,100 to \$1,500, which is still cheaper than taking it to Ft. Wayne where they charge \$3,000. Mr. Bontreger stated that he sees the holding fee is up as well. Mr. Boersma replied that he raised the morgue holding fee because of the amount that they get charged from Tippecanoe County for the use of their autopsy room if they have to have a forensic autopsy. The person performing the autopsy is from Bloomington and has an office in Lafayette. If he comes here, he would charge more. Mr. Bontreger asked if that was why the pathologist fee is up also. Mr. Boersma replied yes, but they don't always use all of that. He said they are at forty-five cases for the year already and a good 20% of them are drug-related. Mr. Jordan asked about the telephone and internet. Mr. Boersma stated that it used to be \$100 per month and that he doesn't have a telephone number for the Coroner's office, it's just a fee that's always been paid to him for use of his telephone, fax machine and everything else they do out of his office. He then stated that the other service fee is where they get odd money from, for example, when the radios have to be re-tuned or when they need a cadaver dog. The attorney fees used to come out of it, now they have a line item for attorney fees.

SHERIFF RISNER / SHERIFF'S BUDGET: Sheriff Risner was present to discuss the Sheriff's budget. He stated that overall they have kept everything pretty much the same as far as expenditures. The increase in cost is due to the Commissioner's moving the jail payment in to the Sheriff's budget, which has added \$1,000,000 to his budget.

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SHERIFF RISNER / SHERIFF'S BUDGET CONT'D: He stated that he does have requests for increases in salary and a request to move the part-time Administrative Clerk to full-time and add three additional Correctional Officers. Mr. Bontreger asked him which part-time position he wanted to move to full-time. Sheriff Risner replied that it's the administrative part-time clerk, due to the increased work load. He stated that they are now scanning arrest files and documents to make room for new arrest records that they have to keep. This position also takes care of civil process work and Sheriff's sales. The county takes in \$200.00 for every Sheriff sale that they conduct. The Sheriff's sales are time consuming because sometimes the sale will get cancelled at the last minute and then they get the sale back the next week and have to re-advertise and go through the same process all over again. Mr. DeVries asked who sets the fee and if we can go higher. Sheriff Risner replied that we can't go higher than that. The fee is set by the State. He stated that he's asking for a 5% pay increase for his employees, except the part-time positions. The pay for the part time Court Security positions would stay the same as well as the part time annex position, which is shared with the Coroner. He stated that last year, he requested to move Radio Operator 3 to the E911 Coordinator position. It did not happen so he had to ask for additional funding. He stated that he is again making this request. The part-time Secretary position was left in the budget request in case funding is not available for the full-time position. Mr. Bontreger asked him if they get the full-time Secretary 1 position, will they still need the part-time position, or the other way around. Sheriff Risner replied that that's correct. He stated that the police pension is set by their actuarial people. They have had three new people moved in to the retirement section of the pension. Office supplies are remaining relatively the same. The request for tires and tubes is \$15,000.00. This is tires for the squad cars and vehicles. Garage and motors has been left the same. This is for maintenance, mechanics and anything to do with that as well as our fuel expenditure. Uniforms are for Sheriff's personnel. The state requires body armor. Body armor is individually measured for each officer so when there is a turn-over, oftentimes that armor does not fit another officer. Also, every 5-6 years, the body armor must be replaced because of degradation that occurs to the material. It is a large expense, being several hundred dollars. Mr. Norwine asked if the Officer leaves to go to another department, can that department purchase their armor from us. Sheriff Risner replied that sometimes they do if the Officer does transfer to another agency. However, many times an Officer retires or goes on to something else. Employee medical testing is for employees and/or somebody that's possibly infected with a communicable disease. We've had a couple officers stuck with syringes so they had to be tested. Liability insurance is an approximate based on what they've seen in the past. Buy money has to do with the investigation of narcotics and investigative travel is self-explanatory. Training is very important. They have to maintain a minimum of 24 certified hours per Officer, per year. Furniture and equipment has stayed the same. Mr. Fritts asked about the part-time Administrator. He questioned where it was showing up. Mr. Bontreger replied that it's the part-time Secretary and is the third line item up from the bottom of the page or the full-time is Secretary 1. He needs 1 or the other.

### Jail budget

Sheriff Risner stated that we had a Staffing Analysis done under DOC about four years ago and we came up eight full-time Correctional Officers short and a part-time short. Since that period of time, he said he has asked for four additional Officers each year, understanding the needs of the County budget and understanding that he has to do something to stay in attempted compliance. Last year, he did get one new Correctional Officer. Correctional Officers take care of transports, which could be great distances. They transport people that are waiting to be picked up from other jail facilities or take people to Department of Corrections. Medical transports, a lot of times, arise as a medical emergency. A Correctional Officer will take the inmate to the hospital. While the inmate is in the hospital, they have to be guarded twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Mr. Bontreger asked if the part-time people or auxiliary people do transports. Sheriff Risner replied that they try to use reserves if they're available; however, there are only nine Reserve Officers and they all work so if it's during the week, very few of them are available. A total of five-hundred and nineteen transports have been conducted so far this year. The jail population is in the eighties and the Sheriff sees that continuing to rise because if their sentencing is for one year or less, they are held at the county jail as opposed to going to Department of Corrections.

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### Jail Budget Cont'd

Also, if someone violates Community Corrections, they go to jail and if their sentencing was one year or less, they stay at Community Corrections. He stated that he asked for a 5% increase in salary for Correctional Officers and for the three additional Correctional Officers. We are currently two Correctional Officers short. A female Corporal Correctional Officer transferred over to Communications and a Correctional Officer notified that he's leaving this week to take another position. It puts a bind on the current staff. Mr. Price asked if the State is trying to shift as many prisoners to local jail cells as possible. Sheriff Risner responded that that is why they went to one year or less on a level six felony. He stated that he's asked for no increase on part-time kitchen help. He has two Assistant Matrons that cook. He uses the part-time help when one of the Matrons goes on vacation. The Senior Corporal with the PREA is for the Prison Rape Elimination Act. It was signed by the current administration a couple years ago. We have to have a PREA Coordinator. Mr. Price asked how we are doing on retention of officers. Sheriff Risner replied that he has two that moved and two more that told him they are looking to leave. Mr. Price asked if it was because of salary. Sheriff Risner replied that salary has a large part in it and also that they work twelve hour shifts in order for us to have enough Correctional Officers on duty and we are still shorthanded. Twelve hour shifts means for twelve hours you are locked in the jail facility. They can't leave for lunch. Mr. Price asked how we are doing with the retention of Road Officers. Sheriff Risner responded that we are not doing very well at all. Mr. Price asked if we get three additional Correctional Officers, will that put us where we need to be or would we still be short. Sheriff Risner replied that we would still be four short, but it does show that we're trying. Mr. Price asked if we did that would it help with morale and retention. Sheriff Risner replied that he believes it would. When there is someone hospitalized, that person has to be guarded twenty-four / seven and already being shorthanded, that means we have to call people in on their days off and they have to go guard prisoners. They get paid overtime but also need time off. Mr. Price stated that they must be pretty dedicated to stay at all. Sheriff Risner stated that he has a great staff. Mr. Norwine asked if the prisoners are allowed to smoke in the facilities. Sheriff Risner said it's a non-smoking facility, but the prisoners can buy smokeless tobacco in the commissary. Mr. Norwine stated that the reason he was asking is because he heard one agency making money for the budget by selling e-cigarettes. Sheriff Risner stated that he has a problem with the e-cigarettes because they find a way to use it for nefarious means that it was never intended for. Also, he's heard of a few blowing up and injuring people and he sees that as a problem. He said they stay low-key with the smokeless tobacco. The inmates know that they have to keep the cell blocks clean or they lose that privilege. It's worked out pretty well because it gives them a little bit of something. Most of them are addicted to something, whether it be heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine or alcohol. He states that he's not a fan of smokeless tobacco, but it does help decrease the agitation of the inmates and it does give the Correctional Officers a leverage to take that away if they don't follow the rules. Mr. Price asked about the halfway house. Sheriff Risner stated that he's talked to Rensselaer and DeMotte Rotaries and he thinks it should be a community project and nothing that has a government entity involved in it. Mr. Bontreger asked if Sheriff has any idea what a proposed budget for something like that would be. Sheriff Risner replied that you would have to look at a couple things – if someone had a fairly large house, at least two or three counselors that are there on a regular basis meeting with the groups and doing counseling sessions, twenty-four hour supervision and doors locked on the outside but open on the inside due to fire code. He thinks it should be started with a ten-twelve population, people that genuinely want to get help. If there is someone that would donate a house as a tax write off to a charitable organization, this might be able to be worked in, but the counselors would need to be paid a salary and you would have to find the right people. He said that they are also looking at Vivatrol, a shot that blocks opiate receptors. There are things they're looking at to get some kind of grant or state funding. He said as far as the halfway house, he believes you would need a Christian based organization to run it.

### CAGIT

Sheriff Risner stated that this is the one that has the payment for the facility on it or it would only be a \$600,000 request. He said they've added \$2,000 to the jail meals and he anticipates with the meals and cost, he will probably need to come back and request an additional appropriation. Institutional supplies are everything from cleaning supplies to uniforms for the inmates. The \$12,000 uniform account is for the uniforms for the Correctional Officers.

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CAGIT CONT'D: The standard Correctional Officers are placed in a lower standard, low-key uniform so they've cut back on costs for that. The Transport Officers that are out and armed are in a little different aspect uniform because they are in public and exposed to a different danger. All officers are issued stab vests, which are expensive. There is a little bit of an increase on medical and hospital. \$112,000.00 of that is for the contract with the medical provider at the facility. That is for a full-time nurse, a weekly doctor visit, a doctor on-call 24/7 and pharmaceuticals. Sometimes, there are pharmaceuticals that aren't included in the contract and they can be expensive. If an inmate that has been on maintenance pharmaceuticals leaves the facility, it's required that they are to be provided with enough to last 4 or 5 days so they have time to obtain their own prescription. Pest control is a requirement. They have to have a company come in and spray monthly for insects. TV cable is required by the Supreme Court. The inmates have to have the ability to get local news channels and entertainment, which is staying about the same. Utilities used to be in the \$240,000 to \$260,000 range and we are down, depending on what goes on. Jail repairs – Even though the building is only 8 years old, it runs 24/7 so multiplied by 3, it's actually 24 years old. Mr. Price asked if the heating and air conditioning is working well after the fixes. Sheriff Risner replied that it has helped, but there are still some issues, mainly on the control side. Havel is who we have our maintenance contract with. They are good at fixing things, but the IT side is not very good at communicating. They are having a meeting next week regarding a new controller that Havel wants to install. The lease payment is the payment on the facility.

### CEDIT

Sheriff Risner stated that the total budget request is \$241,500. There is very little increase from last year. The computer supplies are an on-going struggle. One of the largest requests is the maintenance agreement. The maintenance agreement covers things like the large Cummings industrial turbo-charged generator. They come twice a year and change fluids and keep it running. The elevator, fire sprinklers and compression system are also included in the maintenance agreement. All of those things require annual maintenance and certification. Mr. Fritts asked if they are able to control the humidity ok in the building. Sheriff Risner replied that it's doing better but they had to buy a dehumidifier and put it in the server room and that's one of the things they want to talk to Havel about it. When the humidity goes up in the building, they have no way of getting in to the controls so they would have to call Havel. He stated that we have a twenty-four hour call service with them, but sometimes they don't return our calls if we call them on a weekend. The system has a heat wheel to dry the air, so the heat wheel has to be activated to run the air through the drying process while it's still cooling. If they shut the heat wheel off then soon the floors are damp and the printers won't work. The State Jail Inspector requires them to have all the maintenance paperwork on hand for everything from the monthly inspections of the fire detectors to the suppression system to the air handling unit, etc. The maintenance agreement also covers the radio maintenance with Recom. Radio repair and maintenance is for new radio systems and to keep the current radios up and running when they have something that's out of the maintenance agreement. Mr. DeVries asked if that was the figure for the maintenance agreements. Sheriff Risner responded that it's about seven or eight different companies that we utilize and that we were able to cut costs by doing a multi-year contract. Mr. Jordan questioned the 2015 expenditures for the maintenance agreement and radio repair and maintenance, stating the amounts were \$29,000.00 and \$8,000.00. Auditor Grow replied that the 2015 expended is only from August to December and the 2016 expended is from January to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Sheriff Risner stated that he will probably need to ask for an additional on the jail repair account.

### CUM CAP Development

Sheriff Risner stated that he asked for money for three vehicles. He said they've been using the asset forfeiture money to keep ahead a little bit and now they've spent it and are down to about \$65,000. He also added that he's trying to keep some of that back for emergencies or something that comes along that he can save the county money on. He said that three vehicles will keep them safe and rotating through the fleet. He also added that in the past, he's turned two of their vehicles over to the Commissioner's for Courthouse usage and he's given three vehicles to County Highway. Mr. Bontreger asked what kind of vehicles the Sheriff's department is getting these days. Sheriff Risner said they are looking more at the Ford Explorer SUV.

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### CUM CAP Development Cont'd

Ford is offering a police package and this is an all-wheel drive so it gives them a little more safety in the bad weather. It also gives them more room for all the equipment that the officers are carrying. Through state bid accounts, they can try to buy them locally at Fieldhouse.

### 911

Mr. Fritts and Sheriff Risner stated that the radio dispatcher was slid in to the 911 account. Sheriff Risner stated that we receive approximately \$445,296 per year from the statewide 911 account. Currently, as of August 18, 2016, there was \$340,917 left in the 911 account. He said they usually have about \$50,000 per year left in that account and they let it build up because every five to six years, they have to upgrade the 911. Taxpayers pay a tax on their landline phones and their cell phones, but as far as a taxing entity, this money comes back to us from a Statewide account. He stated that Communications Officers are paid out of that. He said he asked for a 5% salary increase for them. Sheriff Risner asked Kim Schuh how many 911 calls there have been thus far this year and she responded that there have been 827 landline calls, 7,256 cellular calls and 23,052 administrative calls. Sheriff Risner stated that there are two Communications Officers that handle radio traffic, 911 calls and anything else that comes in. as well as radio traffic with our units. Mr. Bontreger asked if the 911 texting has started. Sheriff Risner replied that yes, we do have that. Mr. Andree asked if the new tower is up and running. Sheriff Risner replied that it is up and ready to go but they are waiting on the licensing agreement through the State and the P-25 upgrade, which is migrating from the southern part of the State. He stated that we saved \$50,000 by not putting the current equipment standard in because we knew the P-25 upgrade was coming this year. He is hoping it will be here by early fall, but we have no control over that upgrade, which is ran by AT&T and Motorola. He stated that County Highway could probably get their equipment moved out there and turn it on, but they would need to do an update on their licensing because of a tower change. Also, some of the other entities could probably start with it pretty quick. Mr. Price asked if we are ok with the State as far as having the one call center and two satellites. Sheriff Risner stated that they've heard nothing else from them and also said that we are paying for the equipment at those two satellite centers and training for those Communications Officers. He added that being a Communications Officer is not an easy task. Mr. DeVries asked how many lines they have and how many calls they can take at once. Ryan King replied that they can only take as many calls as they have dispatchers. The dispatcher will ask if it's an emergency or not. If it's not, the dispatcher can put that call on hold and answer another call. They can answer up to four wireless 911 calls, two landline 911 calls, and he believes four or five administrative calls. If all the lines are full, the system will ship the call to White County. Sheriff Risner stated that Ms. Schuh does really well with the scheduling. Some of the dispatchers are on twelve hour shifts and they fill in with part-time Communications Officers. A part-time Communications Officer has to meet the same training requirements as a full-time so they have to have pre-medical arrival and all of that has to be certified.

### Public Safety

Public Safety is money that comes in dedicated for the use of public safety. Sheriff Risner stated that he's asked for a 10% raise for the merit personnel and staffing personnel and the same amount for himself. He stated that they are having trouble with retention. He said there have been at least three Officers that have retired within the past couple years and he's lost four highly qualified Officers to higher paid positions. Detective Robert Ferd had seventeen years of experience and 1,269 hours of certified training. He was also the Polygraph Operator. Deputy Dean Stockman went to Demotte Police Department. He had twelve years of experience and 937 hours of certified training. Detective Matt Myers had eight years of experience and 1,135 of certified training. He stated that he's just been told that Deputy Brian Burke expects to be leaving. He's taking a position with the U.S. Air Marshalls and getting a large pay raise from them. He had eight years of experience and 1,112 hours of certified training. He's also the Canine Handler. His hours of certified training doesn't include the additional hours spent each month to maintain his certification as a Canine Handler. That's a combined forty-five years of law enforcement experience, 4,453 certified training hours and \$93,513 lost in wages training. Mr. Price asked what the total cost is to hire a brand new person. Sheriff Risner replied that it costs \$96,000 if it's a non-academy person by the time you sent them to the academy and did the FTO training and equipped them.



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### Public Safety Cont'd

This does not include the cost for the school, fuel, housing, food or expertise that is lost in forty-five years of combined law enforcement experience. He states that in order for us to maintain the safety and integrity of this community, he has to have good and well-trained people. He said he has excellent deputies, but when you bring on three or four new deputies in an eighteen month period, you don't have the knowledge that keeps them safe, and when they're not safe, none of us are safe. Mr. Norwine stated that unfortunately, the deputies are having to cover Wheatfield because their department closed. Sheriff Risner stated that Wheatfield has hired a Town Marshall but it's going to be a couple weeks before it's up and running. Mr. Norwine asked, when Wheatfield is up and running, how often does the County have to cover for them. Sheriff Risner reported that last month, they covered twenty-two calls for service for Wheatfield. Mr. Norwine asked if they were understaffed and Sheriff Risner said yes. He believes that Remington is going to be understaffed if the annexation goes through. If there is a call for service on the Inter-state and there are no Troopers available, the County Officers have to cover it. Same for if they get a call involving a conservation unit and there are no Conservation Officers available. In addition to this, the County Officers are still covering five-hundred and sixty-two square miles with a population of thirty some thousand. Mr. Norwine asked about the Officers that left. Sheriff Risner stated that all the Officers he named left for higher paying positions. He said they stuck around to see if Jasper County could get up to a more equitable level with other agencies in the County and it didn't happen and they left. Mr. Price stated that he remembers we were in the middle for the area in regards to salary. He asked if we are still there or dropping. Sheriff Risner replied that we probably are but he hasn't researched other counties that are close to us. He knows that Miami County, which has sixteen merit officers and we have twenty-one, the Sheriff is making \$100,000. Mr. Price stated that he was on Demotte Town Council for ten years and was a Police Commissioner for part of the time and they knew they were paying people more than the surrounding areas, but they had almost no turn-over and they had very happy, positive Officers because they felt they were respected and rewarded for their performance and the Town Council felt they were saving money in the long run by paying them more and not having the turnover. Sheriff Risner agreed with Mr. Price and stated that when they're shorthanded, they pull Officers in to work overtime so they're being pulled away from their families. He also stated that almost all of his Officers work an extra position to earn extra money. For the School Resource Officer, the County receives \$45,000 annually back in to the County coffer from the school and five-hundred gallons in fuel expenditures that the School Board covers as part of our contract we have with them. Mr. DeVries asked Sheriff Risner if he could get the council a list of salary ranges that exist in the state for Officers. He replied that he can see what he can find out. Auditor Grow stated that she can get that info. Mr. Bontreger asked if there was any way to find out how our benefit package measures up. Auditor Grow stated that we would not know that information. Sheriff Risner asked them to take in to account that, as of the night before, they had answered 11,479 calls for service and we have just over thirty-four miles of Interstate-65 that runs through Jasper County. If you compare Jasper to Miami County, for example, they do not have an Interstate. Mr. Bontreger asked Sheriff Risner if what's happened in Pulaski County affected Sheriff Risner in any way, as far as anything needing to change due to State oversight. Sheriff Risner replied that there is a statute that's required them to have a change in oversight with the rules and the Commissioners and Council are supposed to vote on it. The state is asking for a procedural write up, basically a standard operating procedure, but this was in the works before this happened in Pulaski. He stated that he's talked with the County Attorney, who is going to meet with him to discuss it. Mr. Price asked if the number of calls have increased compared to last year. Sheriff Risner replied that he doesn't have an exact number but can say that he thinks they are much busier this year. Mr. Fritts asked if there is an accident on Interstate-65, does the County have to respond. Sheriff Risner replied that they do if there are no State Troopers available.

### Partners for Drug Free

This is money that is used to run OWI, extra patrols and drug investigations. As of July 31, 2016, all the money has been spent. The account only had \$2,081 to begin with and is not County General Fund money.

Cindy addressed the council members and stated that she would really hope they would really consider giving the 10% raise.

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At this time, there was a short break.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / BILL WAKELAND: Mr. Wakeland was present to discuss the Community Corrections budget.

### County General

He stated that he put in for a 10% raise for all the Officers and has moved the fifth Correctional Officer and a Case Manager from the County General Fund to the State grant, which was two Officers at \$37,500 each. Since the State grant is a set amount of money, any increase in pay has to go in to the County General Fund so he put \$4,900 as a pay increase. This saves the County General Fund about \$64,500. Last year, one-third of Correctional Officer Schultz's salary came out of county general fund and it is now all coming out of the State grant. He stated that he put the pay increase in the County General Fund. This is another \$9,000 saved in the County General Fund. For two years, they've had the Administrative Assistant's position in County General Fund. It is a part-time position that he said they have not filled. Rather, they have taken those duties and passed them out to other people so he's going to take that out, which is \$25,900. This is all savings out of the County General Fund. He stated that if the Council were to give a 4% pay increase to the employees, the County will realize savings out of the County General Fund of \$89,500 by moving those people to the State grant. The State grant went from \$117,000 to \$302,000. He stated that the State grant has been at \$117,000 for the seven years that he's been at Community Corrections and he's not sure how long we will be set at \$302,000 so any pay increases are going to have to go someplace, which will be back to the County General Fund. There's a big savings now but it will trickle back to the County General Fund over the years. Mr. Price asked Mr. Wakeland if he's having issues with retention of his people. Mr. Wakeland replied that he is all the time. He said it's almost impossible to keep part-time employees and they have to have part-time employees to function. Mr. Bontreger stated that is because, if they want to stay in Law Enforcement, they end up going to the jail. Mr. Wakeland said this job is a starting point for most of them, which is to be expected. He stated that he was at a meeting in Indianapolis and all of the Work Release centers are having the same problem, that they can't retain staff because they move on. Auditor Grow stated that the difference between the requested budget and last year's budget is a savings of \$80,782.

### Project Income

Project Income is the fees that clients pay in to be part of Community Corrections. The increase is the pay increase for two full-time Correctional Officers. The part-time staff are paid out of this fund. He stated that they have four part-time officer slots, but currently only have three filled. He said that it's really hard to find people that only want to work part-time. Under the salaries, he took out the \$2,000 to the Community Service Work Coordinator, which those duties will become the responsibility of the new Assistant Director. Under supplies, he increased cleaning supplies by \$2,000 and food by \$5,000. Everything else remained the same. Under services, he increased professional contracts and additions by \$1,500. He said they are going to have to re-do the work release and electronic monitoring contracts and handbooks and have them translated in to Spanish, which will cost about \$2,000 so he asked for more money there. He said that he asked for an increase in utilities and preventative maintenance in the amount of \$3,000 each. They have a contract with a company in Indianapolis for the generator. The maintenance also comes out of there along with the pest control and they have to pay a maintenance agreement for the computer program they use for compliance. EM equipment, he requested a \$15,000 increase. He said they are running out of money for that. Under the capital outlay, he said he doesn't anticipate getting a vehicle next year. He said they try to get one about every other year. Furniture and equipment he is increasing \$6,500. He said they need new carpeting in the classroom area and office areas. He stated that he's not sure who should pay for that, if it should be the Commissioners or them so he put it in his budget that way he can get it done. As far as he knows, it's the original carpet to the building and the building was built in 1998 so it's well worn. He also states that he believes he raised the sewer in County General by \$1,000. He said their sewer includes the Fairgrounds, the County Highway Garage and the Airport. Mr. Andree asked if they approved a vehicle a while back. Mr. Wakeland responded yes, that they got a Ford Taurus. Auditor Grow stated that the sewer was increased \$2,000.

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### Work Release

The only thing in this budget is office supplies, which have been increased \$2,000. They have to buy some new things for the Assistant Director's position.

VINCE URBANO / SURVEYOR'S BUDGET: Mr. Urbano was present to discuss the Surveyor's budget. He said that he stated this last year and also pulled something up online that the average County Surveyor in the State of Indiana makes \$62,000 a year. He said he's not sure if the Council is aware. He feels that, with the projects that they put together on a daily and weekly basis, he should be at least compared to the Superintendents at County Highway. He said he's setting up projects with them and for them and they are working in conjunction together all the time and that's where the raises fall in line. He said he didn't ask for the \$62,000 this year like he did last year. He said he looked at what the highway officials are making out there. He said he should be on the same page as them. He thinks things really need to be looked at there. He said that goes through some of the wages for himself and he's trying to set this up the way he thought it should have been from the very beginning. When he came in to this, things were never really set up. The Surveyor's position was way lower than all the other elected officials. He said he got it back to the elected official's status after the first year he was here. He said he feels like he's proven himself. He said they can't quite meet the demands of the people's requests that are coming in to their office because they're short-staffed. He said he doesn't have the help that he needs to get things done. He added that they do get things done, but people have to wait to get things done. It's not a smooth transaction like he would like it to be. He said he's asked for part-time help a few different years now and he's just trying to accommodate that the best he can to fulfill the taxpayers needs and the requests he has coming in. The heavy loads are spring and fall, along with a few that come in through the summer and winter as well. It seems like when the farmers are in the fields, his phone is ringing off the hook and they usually get backed up several months through those time frames. He said that they are accomplishing things, but not to his satisfaction and not to what he wants his image to be out there in the County. He said he tried to keep office supplies the same amount it was, maybe adding \$1 or \$2, here or there. He stated that they've had a couple vehicles that have taken a turn in the last few years and they've been nickel and diming them so he is requesting to replace a couple vehicles. He had to replace a transmission in one of them this year, which cost several thousand dollars and now they are having more problems with something else in the truck. The 1994 Ford has knocking in the motor. The transmission is slipping and they're going to be on the side of the road soon. He said they need to look in to this request pretty seriously. Mr. Andree asked him how many trucks they have. Mr. Urbano replied that they have 5 trucks. Mr. Andree then asked if they use every one of them. Mr. Urbano said they do because, usually, he is sending crews two different ways and his Assistant is usually preparing something and he is usually going to prepare something, trying to multi-task and fill as many requests as they can. He said that he feels like the Council has been really good about replacing some of the old equipment in the recent years. A couple of the old trucks have been replaced and the old ones were sold at the auction. He said they have a couple decent new trucks in-house and he's just trying to update the rest of them. Mr. Andree asked if they could look at used instead of buying new and Mr. Urbano replied that we could definitely do that and if they would like him to pursue it, he would be more than happy to. He just wants something functional so they're not having to tow something to the shop every once in a while. He stated that he's been pretty disappointed with the last few Fords that he's had due to rodents chewing through the wiring. Fieldhouse informed Mr. Urbano that Ford is using a soy-based formula on the wires and the rodents think it is food. He said he'd like to try a couple Chevy's this time.

### Drainage Board

He said this is about the same as last year, besides the raise to the Drainage Board Secretary, which is 6%.

### Perpetuation

Mr. Urbano stated that they have a Perpetuation Fund that comes in from different things and he's trying to allot the bracket in here. He said they try not to use that much of this. They try to use the General Fund unless they need some updated equipment or things like that and then he tries to talk to the Commissioners or the Council first before making any major purchases.

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Cum Cap

Mr. Urbano stated that he went out and got a few quotes from a couple dealers. He said they assist the Highway Department with plowing in the winter. When there's a bad snowstorm, there's not a lot they can do in the field. Mr. Urbano said he has a couple guys in his office to go help the Highway Department since they are short staffed. He stated that, since he's been here, the Highway Department has eliminated seven positions and they can't keep up with things, even in their day to day operations. Mr. Urbano said he has one vehicle in his department that takes care of all the County parking lots on snow removal. One of his field guys is given a vehicle to use by the Highway Department while he is helping with snow removal, which is on it's last leg as well. Mr. Urbano stated that he'd like to get a truck with a snow plow package so they can help out with intersections as well when we get hit with those big storms. He said the main thing for him is getting solid vehicles. Mr. Bontreger asked how his requests break down. He asked what would be out of the \$73,000. Mr. Urbano replied that the \$73,000 is for two new Chevy trucks and a separate line item for a snow plow, which he was looking at the Western brand. Mr. Bontreger asked if the plow is something the Highway Department should buy. He also asked if Mr. Urbano is wanting to get just a short bed, extended cab truck because you can't get a long truck with a plow. He replied that the short bed truck that he's requesting would be the one with the plow on it. The four door would be more of a crew cab where they would take a couple guys to a job site. Mr. Bontreger asked if he would be plowing with that one and he replied no, that he's not plowing with both trucks. Mr. Andree asked if he is only wanting to buy one plow. He replied that he would only buy one plow for one truck. Mr. Price asked if Mr. Culp had made a comment about this or had a concern about it. Mr. Bontreger asked if the Highway Department already has a plow they can use. Mr. Urbano stated that that might be the case, but the last truck he bought and equipped with a plow, it was all on him to do and he did it and the budget got approved to do that. Mr. Andree stated that maybe that can come from our rebate money from the State. Auditor Grow stated that she thinks that was what Mr. Culp said, was that it should go through the Highway Department. Mr. Bontreger asked if these are 2500 trucks and Mr. Urbano replied that they are 3500. Mr. Bontreger asked what his request would be for trucks minus the snow plow. Mr. Urbano replied that we could take \$8,000 off the top. Mr. Fritts asked if there was a trailer also and Mr. Urbano replied that there is no trailer on this request. Mr. Andree asked where the majority of their work is. Mr. Urbano replied that it's all over. Mr. Andree asked if he has work on the Kankakee River and the Iroquois. He replied that he's done \$750,000 worth of work on the Kankakee River, but he has no business doing that since it's a State River and so is the Iroquios. He said that the rivers are enforced by the State and that nothing's been done on them for one-hundred years. He said he's a member of the Kankakee River Basin Commission and they are always getting State funds. The \$750,000 is what he pulled in from State funds putting projects together, such as restoration and band-aids in different spots where they're losing sand. The maintenance on the rivers never end. He thinks they need to continue pushing the maintenance. He stated that Commissioner Walstra is in agreeance with him on that issue. He said there's a conservancy in Rensselaer on the Iroquios River that he is not as much involved in since they have Mr. Kingman on that board. Mr. Urbano would like to do a big project on that as well. He said that's the main outlet for all the ditches they're cleaning and the river's not clean. He said it's very frustrating when you're cleaning something and then you're two feet lower than the outlet. Mr. Price commented that, when Mr. Urbano took over, the backlog was a lot worse. Mr. Urbano stated that it was ridiculous. He said they are just now getting caught up from the backlog. He said they were seven or eight years behind, along with new requests. He stated that any new requests now will still take a few years to physically get the work done, because all the work it takes. He stated that he's only able to work on a few at a time. He stated that it's a big load working with all the different agencies, such as DNR, US Fish and Wildlife, IDEM and Army Corps. You have to get permits on everything. He stated that landowners don't generally do that, they just go take care of their problem. Being a government office, you have to do everything by the book and it's very stressful sometimes when they don't give you the answer you're looking for to fulfill the taxpayer's request. Mr. Price asked Mr. Urbano if the landowner will just go ahead and do the work themselves if Mr. Urbano is unable to help them, to which he replied that they will usually just show up to the meetings and ask why things aren't getting done. Mr. Andree commented that some just do the work themselves. Mr. Urbano said that yes some do.

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For example, you may have a drain that's ten miles long and for four miles, the landowner will take care of it, but for the other six miles, the landowners aren't wanting to put the money in to it, which holds everybody else up. That's where the Surveyor's office comes in, to try to make an even playing field for everybody. Mr. Jordan asked if the people that are outside the city limits pay towards the Iroquois Conservancy for what drains in to the city. Mr. Urbano said that they do. He asked if the people in the city pay in to it and Mr. Urbano replied no. He then asked if the city itself pays anything for the upkeep. Mr. Urbano stated that they don't. He said what happens is, when there's a big congested log jam in the city, he usually gets a call from Jerry Lockridge, the Project Coordinator, and they will set something up on the agenda to work together to cut that out. They go in with chainsaws and cut it up and let it float downstream, where there will be people waiting to pull it out with their machinery. He said the Conservancy has been real good about getting things out, but he's stressed to them that they need to be involved with the Conservancy as well. He stated that a lot of people don't feel that it's managed properly because of the way it's thrown together. He said that he has a lot of landowners complaining to him about it. He added that the river is in really bad shape, trees down all over the place. Mr. Price stated that he assumes that makes the flooding problem worse, to which Mr. Urbano replied that it absolutely does. Mr. Andree asked how they could not get by with doing work on the Iroquois when they just did a bunch of work on the bank of the Kankakee. Mr. Urbano stated that they could, but there is a Surveyor in place with the city, who's already putting projects together for them. He said that he's not biting off anything that he doesn't have to because he has plenty enough going on as it is. Until they ask for his help, he's not going to offer it. Mr. Jordan asked if the problem on Highway 114 is under control. Mr. Urbano replied that it's completely under control and they have it fixed. He said it still looks like a mess, but the company that did it will be back when things dry up and they will smooth things over with the dozer and plant seed. He thinks this could have been avoided with more communication. He believes the company got permission from the Commissioners but did not contact the Surveyor's Office to see if there were any public drains in the area and they destroyed a couple thousand feet of one of our drains.

### Scanning

He stated that they've had this vision since he's taken over to take all the old documents that are fragile and have them digitized. They are through about ¼ of them so far. It's been done with the funding and he stated that he's requesting to continue with this. He said he's working with the State and that they have nice scanners and printers on hand. He's found that this is the cheapest route to do this. They take a couple filing cabinet drawers down and they will scan everything and call when they're done with them and return the paper copies along with a disk. The paper copies are being moved to the basement to get rid of the paper load. They are also backing up the disks in case there's an emergency so they don't lose records. There are nine-hundred and twenty-two miles of public drains, both closed and open, and all those were started at some point and they're all on record. Mr. Price stated that Mr. Urbano had mentioned at one time, a lot of the old surveys that were done were not extremely accurate and he would find that when someone was buying 40 acres, they were actually getting 45 or 35. Mr. Urbano stated that what he meant by that was the drainage that was put in. If the survey said it was 4 feet under the soil, it was actually 9 feet under the soil or if they marked it at a certain location, the ditch was actually a couple hundred feet away. He believes it's just based on the technology they had available to them at that time. Mr. Price asked if they are correcting those. He replied that they are, as they go through them. In order to obtain a permit, they have to create a profile for the agency and then they come out to the site and they review everything together. As landowners request reconstruction or maintenance, the Surveyor's Office goes out and creates complete new profiles, with their updated GPS technology. He said they've gotten through about fifty miles of those nine-hundred and twenty-two.

BILL BATELY / IT: Mr. Batley was present to discuss the IT budget.

### County General

He stated that he asked for a 10% salary increase, which is what he does every year. Mr. Andree asked if he's been able to keep up with replacing everything as he goes along. He replied that he thinks we do ok. He said that there are a lot of things in place for when something goes south. He stated that he has direct contact with all of his technicians through CenturyLink.

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### County General Cont'd

One of the things they've done is leverage all of the technology as far as the routers, network switches and phones through CenturyLink, so when something does go down, he or his back-up can call CenturyLink and they come in with their technology, which doesn't cost a lot, since they are already paying the maintenance fee. He said he will usually come in as well, since his back-up's aren't here all the time. He can come in within five minutes, have a plan together and they get it done. He stated that they have a really good rapport with CenturyLink. Mr. Andree and Mr. Bontreger commented that they get his e-mails and appreciate what he's doing. Mr. Batley said he tries to communicate as much as he can. He's often by himself, but figures if he can at least let people know what's going on, then they will understand why something isn't working properly.

### Cedit

Mr. Bontreger stated that there are no changes to the computer supplies and he questioned that the copier and printer supplies were down \$10,000. Mr. Batley replied that it's the misnomer that happened last year. They created an actual copier lease line item and last year it got put in the copier and printer supplies. Money had to be moved around because that's typically just for printer paper, which is why the numbers look different. There are no changes to the computer supplies. Copier and printer supplies is the bulk paper that is bought and used throughout the whole county. The IT supplies is where they purchase inks and toners for printers that aren't under contract. There are a couple that will never be under a maintenance contract. For example, Harry and Charlie have a small HP printer in their office and they print about three copies per month. It's not worth the cost to spend \$30 or \$40 per month on a contract. He stated that, after last year, 95% of the county (separate from the jail) is all under one maintenance agreement through Ricoh. They are on a five year lease, but we are upgrading them every three to four years and flipping the lease. Other Services and Charges/ Consultants is for when our technology needs to be reviewed or we need some input from somebody. He stated that we don't use that fund a whole lot every year, but it comes in handy when GUTS has an extra charge that we didn't budget for under their maintenance agreement. Contracting agreements is where we pay for anything extra outside of the contracts. If the State mandates something, the vendors have to comply at no charge to us. If we want to change a form or something to make it easier on us, then the fees would come out of this money. The hardware maintenance contracts are the servers and those types of things. The amount requested for Nexxus is a hard number from them so that is the amount it's going to cost. The caveat is that we budget that number, but last year they only billed us \$35,000 and then the following year, made up the difference and "hosed" us. He said that we're going to budget the number and if they don't bill us, we're not going to roll anything over and we're going to budget the number they tell us the following year and if we get a bill from them, that bill can be put on the next year's budget and we will budget that much extra. LOW is the Auditor's software. That is the last payment plus the maintenance. He believes we own it next year, so that amount should drop. We paid it in 3 installments and this will be the third. He believes that amount should be cut in half next year. Mr. Price asked if the software is working and Auditor Grow replied that it's working fabulously and she loves it. Mr. Bontreger asked if that is what she used to generate the budget books. She replied yes and he said they are easier to follow than they used to be. Mr. Batley and Auditor Grow made comments about how quickly they are able to generate and print reports, customer service is awesome and if they have to come here for training, there is no charge. With GUTS, it was \$85 per day if they needed to come here. X Soft is for Assessor Hoffman. It got missed last year and it was a big hit. The reason it's \$22,000 is because we own that one outright this year. This is purely maintenance for her software and if she was here, she would tell you the same thing Auditor Grow did. This is phenomenal software. He stated that he's able to call their technician on their cell phone and instantly have a solution. Auditor Grow stated that LOW does have a property tax system that Donya Jordan is thinking about and it works well with X Soft. Mr. Batley said that they've looked at the price of that and it's expensive. He believes getting rid of PVD and moving to their version of the new software would be a cost savings once we do the numbers. Auditor Grow gave an example of the two years she's worked with PVD and trying to get certified in assessed values.

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### Cedit Cont'd

She has to wait for GUTS to send her a report so she can send it on to Umbaugh, who calculates our TIF, and then she has to wait on them to produce the report, where in LOW, if we went that route, she could run the report herself and not have to wait on anybody and the certified values should be just as easy as the click of a button. For this report she had to wait almost two weeks, even after sending several emails.

### Telephones, cell phones and internet

Mr. Batley states that he put some money in the budget, along with another line item for next year. He would like to upgrade all of our CenturyLink equipment. He stated that we've had a problem with lightening since he's been employed here. One year, he stated that we lost thirty-five phones due to lightening damage. He said that he had a meeting with CenturyLink and they brought him a final presentation on what they had discussed. The phone system we have is about eight years old. The wall unit Mr. Batley has in his office has been hit by lightning thirteen times. It will be replaced with a leased unit that's fiber optic only, no copper cabling. All desktop phones will also be replaced, as well as replacing all network switches to a new version. We are currently paying CenturyLink around \$90,000 per year. The new system with all the leased equipment, hardware and maintenance agreements is approximately \$100 less per year than what we are currently paying. We currently have a 30 MGB connection, of which 15 MGB is internet and 15 MGB is data. Included in that price would be upgrading to 50 MGB. It would run from the Highway Garage back to the Courthouse. Corrections would have their own connection back to the Courthouse. Surveyor would also have a 50 MGB connection. We would also eliminate the copper wires between the Health Annex and the Courthouse. The goal is to get rid of all the copper wiring and connections that can pull lightening in here. This does not include the Sheriff's building, since they have their own set-up. All the equipment would be leased for five years, which he thought was a good number for that type of technology. We currently average approximately \$300 per month on long distance charges. Under the new system, we would not have any long distance charges. We would have unlimited free long distance. He stated that none of this has been approved by the Commissioners. He just received final approval from CenturyLink. He said that, originally, \$30,000 was put in to the account for an upgrade, but found out that it was actually cheaper in the long run to lease everything and not have to own it. He stated that he does not see where that money will be needed after seeing what was projected in his meeting with CenturyLink. He informed the council that if they had to cut something, the \$30,000 is an area they could cut from. He said if he needed extra money in the future, he could come back to the Council. Mr. Andree asked if the voltage is coming from the frame of the building or the electrical system. Mr. Batley replied that it's not coming from the outlets, because all the devices that we lost this year were on expensive surge protectors and none of them tripped. The majority of the computers we're losing are getting blown up through the ethernet cable. After doing some tracing, they found that the only copper in the building is through the phone system. He said it's coming in through the copper somehow or there's a grounding issue. A lot of the grounds for the phones downstairs were replaced a couple years ago. They put Number 1 copper cable from the phone system to the ground system, trying to eliminate some of this and he said as lightning hit, you could hear it crackling through the building as it was frying equipment. Mr. Andree asked about having a company come in and try to track down the cause. Mr. Batley replied that he's had Alan Valade here looking at it. CenturyLink has also looked at all their equipment. They can never find burn marks on anything. He believes that by eliminating the copper in the building, it will solve the problem. Mr. Batley stated that Mr. Valade suggested a ground ring outside of the building, twenty feet away, all the way around and at every eight feet, putting a Number 1 ground rod in the ground, at a cost of around \$10,000.

### Office Machine Maintenance and Repair

Mr. Batley stated that he believes this was for the extension office and they did not request anything.

### Software Licensing Purchase and Upgrade

Mr. Batley stated that these are software licenses and renewals. He said that we typically consume every bit of that number each year.

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### System and Application Software Maintenance

Mr. Batley stated that this is for PVD, both the Treasurer's and Auditor's share. It also includes back-up systems, anti-virus, help desk software, auto-cad licensing, domain registration, GIS software, server licenses, the website, spam filtering system, Courtview, Nexxus (which has two different parts), Barracuda, our content management system, Veteran's Office software, virtual environment software and Docuware, our scanner software.

### Copier Lease

Mr. Batley stated that \$33,000 is a hard number that he obtained from Ricoh.

### Computer Cabling

Mr. Batley requested \$5,000 since we are going to be running cabling in the Extension building. They hired some new people and need some more connections. He stated that when the building was initially purchased, he ran the wiring himself. He has someone that he is going to hire to do this.

### Program Applications

Mr. Batley stated that the requested amount of \$20,000 is the number we've always used. This is in case we have to hire someone to come in and build something for us. We used to have access databases some of the departments used and this was to hire someone to come in and actually build those if we needed them, but have not used this line item in a while. Last year, he believes we used it to pay LOW for some things that came up that were not included in what we were already paying for. Mr. Jordan asked if we could reduce that and just leave a token amount in there. Mr. Batley said he is fine with that. He said he is ok with it even being reduced to \$5,000.

### Software Licensing Purchase and Upgrade Cont'd

Mr. Jordan asked if the requested amount of \$20,000 is a hard number. Mr. Batley replied that it is not. He said he could contact a vendor to upgrade something and be told that they've had a 10% price increase this year on that license. He stated that if someone needs a program, we purchase the new license. Also, for Microsoft Office, our license could be for up to one-hundred twenty-five people, but with new hires and people leaving, the number could fluctuate up to 130 or down to one-hundred, for example.

### Training

Mr. Batley stated that he typically does the training in the Commissioner's Room, but he buys books and materials to pass out to the employees.

Mr. Batley asked the council if they had any questions, comments or concerns. Mr. Bontreger stated that he thinks Mr. Batley has streamlined his services and the way he takes care of things over the past couple years. Mr. Batley mentioned that he did not put it in the budget this year, but for next year, would like to request a generator for his office for the server. There was a bad storm recently and before he could get to the Courthouse, we completely lost power to the back-ups and everything was physically off the hard way. Mr. Bontreger said that it would make sense to him. Mr. Batley said he thinks \$10,000 to \$15,000 would cover it. Mr. Bontreger stated that a commercial grade generator, such as a Generac, usually runs around \$15,000 if it runs on natural gas. Mr. Bontreger asked if he's talking about a generator that will run the whole Courthouse and Mr. Batley replied that he's thinking one that will only run his office. He has his own air conditioning in there. Without the air conditioning, the servers will melt. \$10,000 to \$15,000 will be the approximate cost to get one big enough for his office only. He said he's not sure we would want to get one to run the whole Courthouse.

Meeting now stands in recess for lunch.

SOIL AND WATER / LESLIE DAVISSON: Leslie Davisson was present to discuss the Soil and Water budget. She passed out a handout listing the budget requests and a leveraging worksheet for 2015. She stated that the board has recommended a 5% increase for her position as well as the Watershed District Director to account for inflation and an additional year of service.



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SOIL AND WATER / LESLIE DAVISSON CONT'D:

Of the Director's salary, the District pays 25% through grants that they apply for and get awarded. She said that they also have a part-time person and they pay 100% of their salary through grants that they apply for and get awarded. Out of the total salary requests, they receive about \$37,372 from grants. She stated that they have a Memorandum of Understanding that was signed by the Council last year. She said that they pay the Auditor's Office quarterly for the additional salary for Dan Perkins. She said that they work out of the Federal USDA building so they have access to their equipment and printers. They do; however, share in the purchase of supplies, such as toner cartridges. She said that they are asking for a little bit more money to contribute. They also purchased QuickBooks this year. The other increase is travel. She said they do travel around quite a bit. The expense is mostly mileage, not lodging or meals. Some of their traveling includes making visits to farmers, checking on cover crops, checking on other conservation practices. They also attend, throughout Northern Indiana as well as the Indianapolis area, continuing education, workshops, field days and networking events. They have been continuously exceeding what they've had for travel, which is why they are requesting an increase. Another increase is their dues and training. They had to pay \$2,000 to the State Association and about \$775 to the Federal Association. They do get funding from the State that they can use to pay for additional dues and subscriptions that they might have. She stated that the associations are valuable. They lobby with the State and Federal Governments on our behalf. They provide content, continuing education and research. The other increase is furniture and equipment. She said that they've been lucky working in the federal building because they have been provided with computers, network connectivity and technical support for free to the County because they are under the Federal umbrella. The USDA's office is changing their policy a little bit. The SWCD's computers will be out of warranty in October. They aren't really sure what they're going to get and the USDA's office isn't really committing to it right now so they requested \$1,000 in case they need to buy a new computer, particularly for Dan. Also, they are required to purchase certain software since they are under the USDA's firewall and security. She stated that they are asking for \$500.00 less for utilities for the building at the Fairgrounds because they didn't need as much money as they thought they would. Mr. Jordan asked what utilities they have and Ms. Davisson replied that it's gas for the heat. Mr. Jordan asked if they had an LP tank out there and she replied that it's city gas. Mr. Price made a comment that they generate an enormous amount of money from grants that they get from the State for the county and Ms. Davisson replied yes. She said a couple years ago, they applied for an implementation grant to get conservation on the ground. Most of it pays for cover crop and other conservation practices as well as cost-shares that go directly in to our farmers pockets. The grant will continue through 2018. This is the grant that pays for the additional salary for the Directors as well as the part-time employee. Mr. Price asked if the cover crop usage is continuing to grow. Ms. Davisson replied that it is and when they are offering it to farmers, they do encourage the ones that haven't done it before to try it first or for the first couple years, SWCD offers to help them and put the ones that have been doing it for a while to the back of the line, spread it around a little bit. Mr. Price asked if most of them stick with it once they've tried it. She replied that Dan Perkins would know that answer better than she would but she thinks most of them find it beneficial. Mr. Price commented that whatever we can do for farmers is a good thing. Mr. Andree asked about water testing they've been doing around the county. She replied that they are doing water testing. She said that it's also part of the implementation grant and that's it been going well. She said the testing is done monthly. They do E-coli testing during the growing season, April through November. Mr. Andree asked if they've found any hot spots in the county. She replied that they are working on a five year water quality report and she does not have all that put together, but there are some spots that always have E-coli and higher than desirable nitrates. Those are often areas that you would visibly see cattle getting in to the ditches. Mr. Fritts asked how they came up with the statement on the handout stating that "For each \$1 the County invested in the SWCD, the SWCD generated an additional \$2.48". She replied that the figure is obtained based on grant dollars from the State and money that they solicit from private foundations. She stated that Mr. Perkins put the worksheet together, so any more specific questions could be directed to him. He was not able to attend due to a previous engagement and he sends his apologies. Mr. Price told Ms. Davisson that they do great work and she's done a terrific job with her presentation.

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JUDGE AHLER / SUPERIOR COURT BUDGET: Judge Ahler was present to discuss Superior Court budget. He stated that most of what he has requested is consistent with what they have done in the past.

### Courtroom renovations

Last year, he asked for \$20,000 for courtroom renovations and he said that the Council graciously gave him \$10,000. He thanked them and said that he used that to get about half of the work done. He was able to purchase new chairs for all the courtroom tables. He did not have enough money to complete the jury box. He said that he has about \$7,000 left in the budget now. He stated that he asked for \$10,000 and he proposed, with the requested amount and the money he has left, finishing the chairs. He said the chairs have been there for many years and not only are they falling apart, but during a few jury trials, they've had a couple larger gentlemen actually break the chairs sitting there. Mr. DeVries asked if he will be discarding the old chairs and Mr. Ahler replied that they are actually better (with the exception of a few that shouldn't be used at all) than the chairs in the jury room, so he would take the jury box chairs and move them in to the jury room. He would need to get more jury room chairs in the future, but for the time being, could use the chairs from the jury box. He said he's aware it was going to take stages to get things replaced. Mr. Ahler corrected himself and said what he's actually requesting is \$12,500, not \$10,000.

### Salaries

Judge Ahler states that one significant change in salary is that he requested an additional employee for the same reasons he's previously brought up. He's in the middle of interviewing to replace a Court Reporter. They are currently operating with two. He said he's requesting to replace the one that he lost as well as one additional, bringing that to four total. They did have four at one time, then it went down to three and it was never brought back to four. He said he knows that this is an issue that's been raised before and also that this is a Commissioner issue and he plans on making this request at the next Commissioner's meeting. Mr. Andree asked if he's been receiving applicants. Judge Ahler responded that he had two that morning, two that afternoon and one the day before. He's hoping to make a decision on the replacement of Terri Budde within the next seven days. Mr. Price asked if the case load has continued to increase. Judge Ahler replied that it's consistent. Mr. Price asked if the cases have become more complex or more serious. Judge Ahler replied that the crimes have become more serious. The numbers are about the same, but there are more drug crimes and the heroin and methamphetamine is causing more serious offenses. Mr. Price asked Auditor Grow if the Council approves it, does that mean it's approved or does it still need Commissioner approval. Auditor Grow replied that if the Council approves it, then it does not need to go through the Commissioners because it's an elected position. Mr. Jordan stated that it would be good to abide by speaking to the Commissioners. Mr. Norwine stated that he thinks the communication should happen. Judge Ahler stated that he does not want to ask for more than his fair share or more than he's entitled to. He just wants to be able to do the job reasonably. He said he is not trying to step on anyone's toes. He understands that we are different branches of Government, but we are all working for the same voters. He said that he's happy to go to the Commissioners because he thinks his request is justifiable. Mr. Price stated that the only downfall is if the Commissioners deny his request, then he's stuck. Judge Ahler stated that he wants to play by fair principles so he would like to go ask them. He said that the Commissioners and Council have always been fair to him. Mr. Norwine asked Judge Ahler if he's previously mentioned this to the Commissioners, to which he replied that he told them about five years ago and has reminded them several times since then.

### Law books

Mr. Jordan asked about the law book request. He stated that a comment was made at the last meeting that the law books are basically combined on a lot of stuff. He said that the Council got Judge Potter's additional request back the previous week. He asked Judge Ahler if the \$17,500 is a firm figure where it's going to cost \$17,500 for the year or does it fluctuate and is used as needed. Judge Ahler replied that he thinks that's what it's going to cost. He said that the price of law books just keeps going up; however, with the newer electronic system that they are using through WestLaw, the package is cheaper than it used to be and it's a better product.

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### Law books cont'd

Mr. Jordan stated that he's not trying to say there is more than needed in that account, he just wanted to confirm if that was a needed figure. He said that what the Council had heard the previous week was that it was a combined figure and if it was combined, then they would look at the two together. Judge Ahler stated that his is lower than Circuit and he's not wanting to compare his court to Circuit, but they do still have to pay the electronic fee separately and that is the biggest bill. He said that some of this is combined where some of the purchases come with enough for both of them to share and some of them don't. He stated that you're only allowed to have a license for one user. Some cross over and some don't. Mr. Price made a comment about the companies that make the law books having monopolies and Judge Ahler agreed. He said there is only one vendor that bought up everyone else and there is no market economy for law books anymore. Mr. Jordan stated that, between the two courts, we are looking at a budget request of \$55,000 for law books this year, combined. Mr. Ahler stated that he does not know how that compares to last year. Mr. Jordan replied that the budget request was cut \$12,500 and then they had to do an additional for \$14,000 last week. Mr. Jordan stated that Judge Ahler has only spent \$6,614 as of June 30, out of \$17,500. Judge Ahler stated that he thinks that's reasonable and Mr. Jordan stated that he doesn't think the Judge is far off and that the \$17,500 figure is reasonable.

### Salaries Cont'd

Mr. DeVries asked about the salary request. He stated that the request only shows three staff and the Judge was requesting a fourth, but Mr. DeVries does not see where the fourth is included. Judge Ahler stated that he did put in a proposal for a salary for a fourth person. Auditor Grow stated that the very first line is the Bailiff and then if you go down the line, Court Reporter, Court Administrator and Court Reporter 2. Mr. Fritts stated that he's not seeing it. He stated that he has one print-out that was in their mailboxes and then they have what is in the budget book. Auditor Grow stated that it's because it was added late, which is why it's not in the budget book, but should be on the print-out. Mr. Fritts stated that he was comparing the bottom line and it's the exact same number, \$67,037, so it was just put in a different line. He asked if the print-outs are what they need to be working off of and Auditor Grow replied that yes, for Judge Ahler, they do. Auditor Grow stated that the part-time \$5,000 was zeroed out and the \$37,855 was added for the Court Reporter.

### Gal/CASA

Mr. Fritts asked about the \$5,000 adopted last year for CASA. He said that there hasn't been any spent to this point and the Judge is asking for \$5,000 more. He asked Judge Ahler if he could explain that. Judge Ahler stated that he does not get to use the CASA's very often. He said the CASA's are so busy. He said there was one period and time he got to use them, but by statute, they have to take the CHINS termination of parental rights cases and if they had extra time, Judge Ahler could use them. He stated that he has some cases where neither parent has any type of income and he is not able to see what is going on in cases the way a CASA can, such as by going in to a home and checking to see what the living conditions are, which is also what a Guardian Ad Litem does. He either has to make the decision to take the parent's word or he can give a modest amount of money to hire a Guardian Ad Litem who can go in, see the house and make a report. He said that he runs out of that money every year and there are some families that get that benefit and some that don't. Mr. Fritts stated that there hasn't been any spent in the first half of the year. He replied that the first thing he does is try to get them to chip in. When he pays the Guardian Ad Litem back, it's usually at the end of the year on the cases that he determines have the most need. He said that he has three or four requests for GAL's to get paid that he hasn't paid yet.

### Supplemental Adult Probation

Judge Ahler stated that this is to pay for the assistance of monitoring probationers. He stated that they haven't used this program as much as they have in the past, not saying that they couldn't or won't, but he has not spent any this year. This is a fund that he shares with Judge Potter, but he is the Administrator. Auditor Grow and Judge Ahler said this money is driven by user fees so it is a non-appropriated account.

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### User fee

Judge Ahler stated that this is the Ryan & Ryan Alcohol fund. It is driven by alcohol related convictions where they are required to go to Ryan & Ryan or State approved counseling and then they pay a fee for having to go through that. This is the account money comes in to and the Court pays Ryan & Ryan for their evaluation. This is also a non-appropriated fund.

### Extradition

Judge Ahler stated that it's always his goal to get all the money spent out of this fund put back in to it. He does all he can to get that money back as a term of their conviction on their criminal case, but there are some people that, no matter how long we wait, they are never going to pay it.

KAREN WILSON / EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Karen Wilson was present to discuss the EMA budget. She stated that she left the office supplies, operating supplies, fuel allowance and insurance the same as they were in the past. She has never went over those amounts, so they seem to work. The \$1,000 fuel allowance request is for her use of the Trailblazer at the jail. The agreement she has with the Sheriff is that she is to replace the fuel, which she said works out fine. She uses it between two to six times a month for things such as out-of-county training (which happens quite frequently) or for in-district meetings.

She requested a salary increase and stated that the handout she passed out supports her reasoning on the salary request. She stated that Indiana Department of Homeland Security reimburses Jasper County 50% of the salary for the EMA position as well as up to two supporting positions, which would be Deputy Director and Secretary. She does not have a Deputy or a Secretary, so she is doing the job of two to three people, compared to other counties. She stated that in 2015, she brought in \$22,748.38 to Jasper County. For 2016, she is hoping, with the things she has in the works, the amount will be \$35,116.98. She voiced some concerns and expressed hurt feelings about her salary. She informed the Council of all of her accomplishments to support the salary increase request. Mr. Price responded to her and explained that it sounds like the decision that was previously made was beneficial and that she has addressed the areas of concern and that was the Council's intention. He apologized if her feelings were hurt and stated that it wasn't with mean intent, it was intended to try to address a concern and it sounds like she has.

### LEPC

Mrs. Wilson stated that she is the Officer for the LEPC. The numbers remain in the same areas. She said they are working within their means in that group. The LEPC is able to earn funds each year based on the facilities in the County that have HAZMAT materials. She wanted to point out that we have earned \$18,000 for the LEPC by having those facilities. She said there are some "slackers" that don't do what they are supposed to do so she will use her capacity as Officer to try to walk them through the system and do the exercises to get things done. Over the course of 10 years, they've accumulated \$60,000.00 in the LEPC, of which \$50,000 is invested. That money is to be used by first responders with HAZMAT issues. She said they are very conservative with that money and are serving it well. She said they usually get between \$4,500 and \$5,200 per year. Mr. Bontreger asked who the current HAZMAT Coordinator is. She replied that Brad White is the Spill Coordinator. He is in West Lafayette and has a few guys that go out and help him. They set it up to have someone in each town. Brayden Clark is in Remington. Brad White is in Rensselaer. Randy Woods and Tom Fentress are in DeMotte. Mr. Bontreger asked how the process works with the Spill Coordinators. She replied that they would be there with the firefighters and have tablets they can take pictures with. Mr. Bontreger stated that he was going to mention that the LEPC bought I-Pads for each of those guys a few years ago. Mrs. Wilson stated that they have spill reports, documentation and pictures in case the carrier doesn't want to pay for the clean-up. She said that there hasn't been an occurrence since she's been here where they didn't want to pay. In regards to the recent spill on Interstate 65, the Fire Department expended a lot of equipment that has to be replaced and or repaired, like couplers and hoses. There was one set of hoses that was damaged because it had HAZMAT material in it and can't be re-used. The quick fix is for the fire department to purchase new equipment and once LEPC is paid by the carrier, LEPC would reimburse the Fire Department for the new equipment. There may be an issue with that because the local fire department doesn't have that kind of money. Mr. Bontreger asked if some of LEPC funds can be used.

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### LEPC Cont'd

Mrs. Wilson stated that she has a call in to Ian at the state level to find out if they can do that and reimburse LEPC once the carrier pays. The catch is that it's an on-going thing that takes time for the carrier to pay and the insurance company to pay. It requires someone to stay on it and make sure we get back dollar for dollar. She said this will be discussed at the next meeting in October. Mr. DeVries asked if there are more training sessions scheduled. She replied that CSX came to their annual exercise, which turned out to be awesome. They are planning the next event for April. It will be the LEPC exercise. She said there is nothing in the works with CSX at this time, although they did ask her to come to Atlanta to their training center but, due to budget hearings, she was unable to go. Mr. DeVries stated that the train wreck exercise was well planned and well done. Mr. Price stated that it was very valuable for the Fire Department to learn about using foam as opposed to water in that type of situation.

### Sirens

Mr. DeVries asked if everything was working well with the sirens. She replied that everything is going well. There is one siren acting up a little bit, but she has RayCom coming out to look at it. It is located by Pleasant Ridge. It's working, but not every single time. It doesn't function and go the full three seconds on the test. She said she asked for \$4,000, which is in line with the previous years. They are getting older and will need some maintenance. Mr. Price stated that it was a good choice to go to automated and she replied that it absolutely was. Mr. Norwine asked how old the original sirens are. Mrs. Wilson said she believes they are seven to eight years old.

EXTENSION OFFICE / BRYAN OVERSTREET: Mr. Overstreet was present to discuss the Extension Office budget. He passed out a handout with an itemized budget request and started off by introducing Anna Williams, their Youth Educator. He said that Alice Smith was unable to make it.

### Salary

He stated that he did go through the Commissioner's and created an Office Manager position for Christal. She's been with the Extension Office for twenty-one years. She is currently training the third secretary and has taken on more responsibilities. Her salary request would be 5% more than what she is currently making. He requested a 3% increase for the secretary, which is in line with what they've asked for the past couple years.

### Office Supplies

This amount is remaining the same as it's been for the past several years. He stated that they try to be frugal and also use Purdue funds when they can.

### Postage

This amount is also remaining the same as it's been for the past several years. They try to use e-mail as much as possible.

### Contractual Services

Mr. Overstreet stated that Purdue is asking for a 1% increase. The budget request is more than that because of part of Ms. Smith's salary. He stated that 1% would be \$84,197, but it would be nice to get \$86,549.

### Travel

Travel is staying at \$6,000. Mr. Overstreet stated that they try to use the County car when they can.

### Professional Improvement

He does not believe they've spent much out of this as of the end of June. He did attend National meetings in July so that will be paid for out of this. Ms. Smith will be attending the National meetings in October so the money will be used up before the end of the year. They also sometimes go to State meetings and use this money for that as well as spring conferences.

### Maintenance and repair

This is for the maintenance agreements on the duplicator and folding machine.

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### Salary Cont'd

Mr. Fritts stated that he wanted to clarify the salary request. He said it's not 3%, it's almost 11%

DAWN HOFFMAN/ ASSESSOR'S BUDGET: Dawn Hoffman was present to discuss the Assessor's budget. Mr. Bontreger asked her what percentage she used and she replied that she doesn't remember, but she usually uses 10%. Regarding reassessment, she said she doesn't have anything padded. Last year, her office supplies got cut, but it was ok because they didn't have to order many things. This year she said they will need to order envelopes and some other things again, so the requested amount of \$3,000 is probably pretty correct. PTABOA seems to be a little high. She tries to schedule many at one time, so they are coming in very minimally. The members only get paid \$50 per day. She asked if the \$50 per day is a set rate. She said the reason she's asking is because one of her PTABOA members is a Level 3 and he has to have forty-five hours of continuing education every 2 years. She believes the classes are free, but he has travel time involved. \$50 is hardly worth his time with all the running back and forth. The PTABOA member asked Mrs. Hoffman if she would present that to see if he could get a little extra money. Auditor Grow and Mrs. Hoffman state that it's been \$50 as long as they could remember. Mr. Andree asked if this is a review board and Mrs. Hoffman replied that when someone appeals their assessments, three guys come in to hear their appeal. Lester Moore is one of them and he's the Level 3. She said she has to have a Level 3 or Level 2 on the board. Mr. DeVries said that you would think you would be paid a higher rate if you're a Level 3. Mrs. Hoffman said that is what he's requesting and Mr. DeVries said that that would make sense. Mr. Price asked what he requested we increase it to and what Mrs. Hoffman thinks. She replied that she was thinking maybe \$75 and give the other guys \$50 so at least he's getting a little extra. Mr. Price stated that the PTABOA is an important board because you really need people who know what they're doing. There was some discussion on whether the fee is determined by the County or the State and some discussion regarding the amount of the fee. Mr. Bontreger stated that if it's found out that Mrs. Hoffman has the authority to increase it then she can at her discretion since she'll have it in her budget. Mrs. Hoffman stated that it comes in on her salary ordinance. Auditor Grow stated that it would have to be done before the salary ordinance gets done, but it would be within the \$2,000 she requested. Mr. DeVries asked if he is a traveling PTABOA or is he only on our board. Mrs. Hoffman replied that she thinks he's just on ours. He was previously the Newton County Assessor. Mr. Price asked if we have any appeals that are pending and she replied that we don't. Every appeal has been resolved. Auditor Grow asked how many members there are. Mrs. Hoffman replied that there are three. They've had two appeals so far this year and we might have two or three more. Mr. Price stated that, even with paying the Level 3 \$75, she could have ten appeals and still be under budget. Mr. DeVries stated that the Level 3 should have made more money. Mr. Bontreger stated that he's assuming Mr. Moore is required to be at the meeting. Mrs. Hoffman stated that they call them all and set a date. Mr. Andree asked if they all show up. Mrs. Hoffman replied that one has been made an alternate because she wasn't showing up. Regarding mileage, she stated she requested a little in case they ever have to use their car to go somewhere. Mr. Andree asked if she had three other people working in her office and she replied that there are four. Mr. Norwine asked if we've met the state requirements for different levels. She asked if he was talking about the pay increases. He said yes and she replied that yes, it's all good. Mrs. Hoffman wanted to add that they've been working closely with Mary Scheurich to put zoning on the property record cards. This is only for the county, not cities and towns. If it's in Demotte, for example, it will say "buffer". She stated that, when doing reassessments, they've found where someone has built something without a permit and they share that info with Mrs. Scheurich and she has been making them get a permit, even if the building or addition, etc. was done a couple years ago. Mr. Andree asked if she was inspecting it and Mrs. Hoffman replied that she's not sure how that part is being handled. She was asked if the reassessments are done every year and she replied that it's about every four years. Wheatfield was reassessed last year. This year, they are working on the mid-section of the County. Rensselaer and Remington will be last.

CHRISTINE HASKELL / PROSECUTOR'S BUDGET: Christine Haskell was present to discuss the prosecutor's budget.

## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

### CHRISTINE HASKELL / PROSECUTOR'S BUDGET CONT'D:

#### Salary

She stated that she requested a 5% increase across the board. She understands what the budget restrictions are. She said she is asking the same amount for the part-time Clerk. It's about the amount of time they need to supplement that position to answer phones and do the scanning and that sort of thing. She said they are asking for an increase for a part-time Investigator. She said they've been finding that he's very helpful. He has asked if he could add more hours, but she can't do that because the budget she has doesn't allow her to increase the hours based on the pay rate that he is being paid. He said that he would be willing to work up to the maximum that a part time person can work, thus the request for the \$38,000 because that would be the total amount for the year. He currently works all day Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and comes in part-time on Tuesday. If available, he would like to make it full-time on Tuesday as well. She said that on the cases they get from the Sheriff's Office that are already filed, he preps the witnesses. He also drove to pick up a witness for a recent rape trial and drove her back, since she did not have a license or anyone else to drive her. He also follows up on out-of-state convictions to get those certified records from Lake and Cook Counties that tend to be more difficult for us than Newton County. Mr. Andree asked if he is a retired police officer. She said that he is. He worked for the Fort Wayne Police Department and then worked for a Judge in the Juvenile Division of the Allen County Court. Mr. Fritts asked if he lives locally. She replied that he lives in White County. Regarding the Deputy position, she wanted to remind everyone that this position gets paid 75% from the General Fund and 25% from the Title IV D Incentive Fund, so the total salary request would be \$58,800, with the county only paying 25% of that from the Title IV D Incentive Fund.

#### Adult Protective Services

This line increased rather significantly. That is something beyond our control, as it is a portion that our County is required to pay for those services. The LaPorte County Prosecutor, who is in charge of the Adult Protective Services, sends Jasper County a letter stating that our portion is \$1,140.

#### Books and Supplements

The good news, she states, is that they were able to decrease this line item. They have decided to go strictly electronic with their books and code citations. Previously, they've been paying monthly to get the hard copy books, whereas now, the Indiana Prosecuting Attorney's Council has provided them with the internet Lexis research program for free.

#### Dues and Education

There is a decrease in this request due to certain employees not needing re-certified this year. This number tends to fluctuate year to year, depending on who needs re-certified and what they need re-certification for.

#### Salary Cont'd

Mr. Fritts asked about the part-time Investigator. Expenditures year-to-date are showing \$12,638. He stated that it's not even half of the \$30,000. Ms. Haskell replied that they weren't able to find someone to fill that position until March. He then asked her if she would spend all of the \$38,000. She said that she anticipates that they would be spending it. Mr. Fritts confirmed with her that she wouldn't necessarily spend all of it, but it's possible and she said that's correct. She said he works more during trial weeks and then the following week will work less to keep within the part-time amount. Mr. Bontreger asked her if it was correct that there was not a shortage of jobs and she said that is correct. She said he is willing to work more hours if we have the ability to compensate him for those hours. Mr. Andree asked her if she needs him to work more hours and she said it would be really beneficial to have him. She said that there is some work that he does that takes the work load off of some of the other individuals. We've had an influx of videos, from police body cams, in-car cams, etc. In a one hour video, there might be, for example, ten minutes that's significant for us, but someone has to watch the whole video to ensure there's only that ten minutes that's significant and that's one of the things he's been working on as well as tracking down a lot of habitual offender cases in order for us to file enhancement charges.

## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

### Salary Cont'd

Many of them are in other jurisdictions and could be fifteen to twenty years old so calling those places and getting ahold of someone that can help or knows what they're doing can be very time consuming.

### Federal Forfeiture Fund

This is a Federal fund that came about because of Federal forfeitures of drug money through the Federal Government so it has certain restrictions on how it can be spent. It also has to be used to supplement, it can't supplant, any of the categories. She stated that she didn't ask for any increases in the categories that we might be showing some more need because she felt that the two forfeiture funds could supplement that so if we need additional funds for witnesses, we can take it out of the two forfeiture funds, which should really be spent on those cases. She stated that both the Federal and the State allow us to also provide supplemental services or items to Law Enforcement agencies. For the Federal Government, they actually have to be participants in the Federal Fund. She believes that the Sheriff's Department, Rensselaer City and the State Police are all part of that. The category of Other Services and Charges of \$5,000 can be used to help the other agencies for things such as light bars, etc.

### Prosecutor State Drug Recovery

The State Fund is the same, with the only difference being that they use this fund to pay for their cell phones used in their office. The Federal restrictions do not allow them to use the other fund.

### Deferral / Diversion

This fund is to pay for part of the salary of the clerk who is responsible for the deferrals and diversions that are processed. It is also used to pay for the supplies that the clerk uses.

KIM GROW / AUDITOR'S BUDGET: Kim Grow was present to discuss the Auditor's budget. She stated that she is requesting her salary be increased to match what the Assessor's salary is. She requested \$5,000 for office supplies. She stated that whatever is not used goes back in to County General. This is the same amount as usual.

VICKIE BOZELL / CLERK'S BUDGET: Vicki Bozell was present to discuss the Clerk's budget. She stated that she has removed the \$600 for the service contract because it's difficult to find someone that will look at a typewriter. Mr. Bontreger asked her if they still have to use the typewriter and she replied that they use it every once in a while. She requested a 5% salary increase.

### Microfilm

She stated that she's flip-flopped a couple things. She took \$1,000 from maintenance and equipment and added \$1,000 to part-time. She has several offices asking to have different documents from their offices scanned. The Veteran's Office has a big project coming up and the Auditor's Office has several things they want scanned. She's also been contacted by the Historical Society about scanning some things for them. She stated that she's more than happy to do it, but it makes it hard to keep up with the Clerk's retention schedule. Mr. Bontreger asked if, when work is done for the Historical Society, is that donated to them or do they pay. She replied that it's been discussed, but has not been finalized. If, for example, she were to make a copy out of a file, it would be \$0.50. She does not have all the details worked out yet. She would think there would be some type of a charge. Mr. Fritts stated that he does not see the \$1,000 deduction. Auditor Grow stated that the total budget for 2016 was \$4,788 and Mrs. Bozell is only asking for \$3,000. Mr. Fritts stated that the adopted budget was \$3,000, to which Auditor Grow replied that there was an additional for \$1,788. Clerk Bozell stated that the reason for the additional is that she didn't originally receive a bill. Mr. Bontreger asked her if she would have been requesting \$4,788 this year had she not cut the \$1,000. She replied that she would have been requesting \$4,000. Mr. Bontreger stated that, because it was an additional, it's not showing up on the budget request as a reduction. She said this is only for one machine that is used to view films.



## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

### Election

Clerk Bozell stated that she had mentioned last year that she would like to upgrade voting machines and she said that Mr. Bontreger had asked her where she was going to get the money. For 2017, there is not an election. She stated that she combined her voter registration and election board funds and put them all in to election board asking to upgrade the voting machines. She said that it will cost around \$91,000 to get the machines upgraded. She has a quote from Microvote. She stated that they have received tons of complaints about not being able to see the screen very well. It is a light grey on dark grey. The upgrade will be black on white.

Bill Batley was present to explain what the Micro-Vote upgrade would be. Mr. Batley stated that they had a couple mechanical failures last year. Clerk Bozell stated that they are always prepared with a couple extra machines, just in case. Mr. Bontreger asked if the \$48,000 savings is being moved to the upgrades. She said yes, that is what she's doing and wanted them to keep in mind that in 2018, there will be a voter registration budget. Mr. Norwine asked if absentee voting is sent in the mail and they send it back. She replied yes it is. He stated Oregon mailed all their registered voters ballots and they would fill them out and return them. He asked if Indiana would allow her to entertain that thought. She said that's it's never been mentioned at any election conference she had been to. She stated that it would be good; however, our mail goes from here to Indianapolis, then to East Chicago and Gary before it even gets to Wheatfield. Mr. Norwine stated that he thought it went to Gary and then to the south suburbs of Chicago. She stated that there had been some complaints about people not getting their ballots in a timely manner and that was what she was informed when she called. She stated that all the machines would be picked up at once. She asked if they could be done in phases and was told no. Mr. Fritts asked if the basic machines are made the same and are we just changing the screen colors. Mr. Batley stated that some of the guts will be removed and replaced. The firmware is on a micro-chip, so they have to open the case and put in the new firmware chips. He thinks the main board will get replaced as well and then, of course, the screen. Realistically, all that's left after that is the plastic case. The buttons are in two strips. They are rubber and bolt to the back of that. He said they have quite a few spares of the button strips. Mr. Price asked if this will give us improved security. Mr. Batley replied that anytime you upgrade software on a device, the updates typically have better security. Realistically, unless someone had a laptop with that software and cabling and understood the software, it would be really hard in a voting location for someone to hack in to it and change a button. Mr. Price asked if it has happened before. Mr. Batley replied that there has not been on these systems. He said that he's never heard from Microvote of having that problem. Mr. Price asked if the main purpose of the upgrade was to have a screen that's more visible. Mr. Batley stated that, due to the demographics using the devices, the screens are getting harder and harder to view. The current machines have LCD screens and the new screens will be LED. Mr. Fritts asked how many voting machines we have. Clerk Bozell stated that there are 69 machines. Mr. Fritts asked if the quoted amount also includes shipping. Clerk Bozell replied that the company will be picking them up. Mr. Jordan asked what a new voting machine costs. Clerk Bozell stated that she purchased three used machines three years ago and they were \$500, so a new one would be \$1,500 plus. Mr. Price asked if we have all new guts, will we have less problems and less chances of breakdowns. Clerk Bozell replied that yes, you would think it would be that way. She stated that these machines are twelve years old and feels that we got our money out of them. Mr. Bontreger asked how the votes are extracted off each machine. He asked if they are plugged in or if they are wireless. Clerk Bozell replied that it's on a card and is a magnet extraction. Mr. Batley stated that there's a little SIM card embedded in the card and Clerk Bozell has a reader in her office. He said it's encrypted so it couldn't be put in a cellphone. Clerk Bozell told Mr. Jordan to please not quote her on the price of a new machine, as she would have to check in to that. Mr. Fritts stated that, at \$91,000, it would be about \$1,300 per machine to re-build them. She stated that she would find out for them how much a new machine would cost. Mr. Bontreger stated that he is curious to know what a new one costs. Mr. Fritts asked if a new machine would be better than the upgrade or would they be the exact same. Clerk Bozell stated that she does not know that answer. Mr. Fritts stated that he would like to see her upgrade. Mr. Jordan stated that he thinks it's worth checking in to, to see what the cost of new is. She said that it could be \$5,000, but she doesn't know for sure. Mr. Bontreger stated that, what it will come down to, is how much you pay for the case and the stand. Mr. Batley stated that, he was thinking, to replace all the machines, was easily over three figures.

## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

### Election Cont'd

Clerk Bozell stated that there was a County Chairman that did check in to it and, with one company, it was over \$500,000. Clerk Bozell stated that she thinks the machines we have now are very user friendly.

### Voter registration

Auditor Grow stated that no money has been requested for this fund. Clerk Bozell stated that is because she has combined it with election board funds.

### Clerk Perpetuation

She stated that nothing has really changed in this request. She did add a line for continuing education so she can go to child support meetings.

### Election Cont'd

After looking over the quote, Mr. Jordan stated that it says the cost to upgrade the machines is 1/4<sup>th</sup> the cost of buying new. Mr. Fritts stated that it would be about \$5,000.

MARK SINCLAIR / ANIMAL CONTROL BUDGET: Mr. Sinclair was present to discuss the animal control budget.

### Animal Shelter

He stated that the part-time is a requested increase of 7%. Because he is the only full-time person, all the part-time pay will be coming out of that now, except for the week-end person. The other three employees will be paid out of part-time. He said he's had to pull money from the Deputies line item since it's not being used. It was for a full-time position that they don't have, which was before they got the last employee. He stated that there's enough money there to cover all the part-time. The Director's pay was done by his Board and he said they came up with that number because it is just below the national average. He stated that the Indiana state average is \$42,500 for an Animal Control Officer/Director. Mr. Andree asked how many that includes and Mr. Sinclair replied that he doesn't know. He stated that Pauline Boring had all that information and was going to be there for the meeting, but she couldn't make it. He said he's found that with most of the ones he's talked to, there's just a Director and they don't do any animal control or shelter work. They only run the organization. He's met three that do both, but most have their own Director and run the whole show. He stated that the part-time is a big increase because the \$4,000 isn't even enough to pay that person regular hours. It's enough to cover all the week-ends at the minimum hourly pay. The requested amount of \$7,649 is what would be needed to add holidays to that. Mr. Bontreger asked him if he has a consistent person that's committed to week-ends and holidays. Mr. Sinclair replied yes. He stated that he requested \$1,500 for training that he'll be attending in January. He said he believes it typically comes out of the donation part. Board compensation remained the same. Office supplies have been increased by \$60. Animal food was also increased by \$60. He said that they've been fortunate this year and have had a lot of food donations. He said that he's used some of it for other supplies and there's about \$1,000 left. He said that this being his first year, he's not sure if that happens every year or if it is usually all spent on food. Cleaning supplies are up \$85. He said that most of them have been increased by 5% or 7%, same with vehicle maintenance. Uniforms have been increased 22% because \$900 does not go very far for a year's worth of uniforms. Equipment has been increased 33%. He said that is mainly because he is doing more of the repair and maintenance than what had been done before, instead of calling the maintenance people. Medicine has also been increased. They only buy six different types of medicine and two of the six have seen a price increase of 15% this year. Animal rendering was left the same. He said from what he understands, the veterinarian was not used very often. When the vet is used, they give Animal Control a discount and also sometimes donate some of their services. He said he's used almost all of the \$600 already. Mr. Andree asked what vet is used. Mr. Sinclair replied that they use Dr. Mallory and Dr. Davis. Dr. Yerk is also available if they can't get the animal in to one of the other two. Mr. Price asked if they've had to put many animals down this year. He replied that there were about fifteen or sixteen, all of which were injured or sick.

## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

### Donations

He stated that he requested \$1,500 for training that he will be attending in January. He believes it was \$500 last year. Mr. Bontreger asked if the exercise center has been built. He said that it will be built on September 24. Mr. Price asked if things have been going how he hoped they would, as far as improvements, etc. He replied that they are, especially now that he has help out there. For two months, there were only two people. He said he will be done training the new people in about three weeks. There are always two people there now, whereas before, there was only one. He stated that last year, they adopted out ten animals for the whole year and they are at about sixty so far for this year. He said it's going well.

At this time, there was a short break.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT / NANCY BAILEY / MARY ANN NELSON: Nancy Bailey and Mary Ann Nelson were present to discuss the health department budget.

### Health Department

Ms. Nelson stated that between 2016 and 2017, everything is the same except for salary requests. She said she believes Ms. Bailey figures the raise request at 10%. Mr. Price stated that it comes out to a little over 10%. Ms. Nelson stated that the attorney fees were dropped down from the 1,000's to the 3,000's, which brings the total for personal services from \$287,913 to \$308,026. Ms. Bailey stated that they had to add money to maintenance and repair because she is now obligated under law to have the refrigerators and freezers calibrated on an annual basis so she asks that they please leave that money in there. Mr. Bontreger asked if our Weights & Measures guy does that and she replied that he does not because she has to have a certified person do it. He comes from downstate to do that. Mr. Bontreger asked if it was just once a year and she replied that it is. Ms. Nelson stated that it's because of the vaccines. Mr. Fritts asked if the requested amount of \$3,000, which was the same as last year, will be enough to cover it. She said that it will. Mr. DeVries asked if that was for the calibration and she said that it is. The calibration costs around \$1,100, at least, if they don't raise it. They have one freezer and two refrigerators that have to be calibrated. The rest of that money is for other machines that might need fixing.

### Local health maintenance

Ms. Bailey stated that this total budget is at \$33,139, which is the same as it was for 2016. This amount is set by the state. The part-time nurse's salary is figured at \$29,507. At the current rate, that's 1,317 hours at \$22.40. She stated that if the Council raises the salary then she will have to cut down on the amount of hours the nurse can work. That figures out to around 25 hours per week. The rest of that budget is as it was. There has been carry-over money from years' past that hadn't been spent. When they came to do the calibrations this year, they found out that the freezer and one of the refrigerators were not where they should have been and needed replaced. She stated that she took over \$7,000 out of this fund to replace the two. She had to get emergency permission from the State and submit it to Auditor Grow, but by doing it this way, avoided having to go to the Council to ask for additional appropriations. Auditor Grow stated it was \$7,981. The local health and maintenance is the fund that Jan Hamstra is paid out of.

### Health Department Cont'd

The part-time nurse in this fund is Shelly Wynkoop. It works out to be about 1,340 hours. She works 24 hours per week under the current salary.

### Local health maintenance cont'd

Mr. Fritts stated that he's seeing a \$1,374 increase in the budget, but does not know what line item it's coming from. Mr. Jordan stated that all the columns match, but the bottom numbers are different by \$1,374. Ms. Nelson stated that she doesn't know where the \$4 could have come from. Mr. Fritts stated that it looks like it's the \$900 and \$474 line items added together. Ms. Bailey stated that she knows the total budget is \$33,139 and she took the total numbers off the state form and that it should have added up correctly. Mr. Fritts and Mr. Jordan stated that it does add up correctly, but it's just showing a difference of \$1,374. Auditor Grow stated that it looks like the software did not catch the formula of the lines for the \$900 and \$474. Auditor Grow stated that she would check on that before Tuesday, August 23.

## **BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL AUGUST 19, 2016**

### Local health maintenance trust

Ms. Bailey stated that this fund is a grant through the State. Amy Todd, the Preparedness Communicable Disease Nurse, works under various grants. This is one of them. A small portion of her salary comes out of here and they also pay the employee benefits, including PERF, out of this fund. Part of Ms. Todd's health insurance also comes out of this fund. Ms. Bailey stated that when the Commissioners agreed to make Ms. Todd full-time, they told Ms. Bailey that she had to provide Ms. Todd's health insurance using grant money. The rest of her health insurance comes out of the Preparedness budgets through the State. The State budgets run July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. There are two funds, a base and CRI, which is City Readiness Initiative. District 1 Counties are involved in that. They pay Ms. Todd's salary by using money from the trust, the other two budgets and the money that is put in to the Health Department for Ms. Todd. Ms. Bailey usually has to move money around to do so. When money in one category runs out, they move her to a different category. Other than salary and insurance, there is about \$47 left in the trust budget for office supplies.

She stated that the State is going to be changing the way they order vaccines and will be creating a whole new program. She found out it will be starting in September. She stated that giving shots is not restricted to county residency.

MARY SCHEURICH / PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT: Mary Scheurich was present to discuss the planning and development budget. She stated that everything stayed pretty much the same. There were a few up and a few down, but not by much, other than raises. She lowered mileage because she usually uses a county vehicle. She raised the consultant amount for amendments to the UDO, when need be. They found a few things that they needed in there that weren't. Mr. Andree asked how the inspections are going this year and she replied that it's not been too bad. Mr. Price asked if construction is going to be up or down this year. She stated that we are a little bit above. She passed out a hand-out that lists the number of building permits issued since the year 2000 through current, as well as the fees collected, applications filed for the Plan Commission and applications for Board of Zoning. Mr. Andree stated that the State is reporting a 14% increase over last year. Mrs. Scheurich stated that we are up from the last couple years. Mr. Fritts asked Mrs. Scheurich if she could talk about the \$2,000 increase on the Inspector line. She replied that it basically boils down to construction as to where we're going to be with that. Mr. Price asked how much she receives per inspection. She stated that she gets \$10 per inspection, up to \$2,000. Mr. Andree asked her if she had talked any more about contractor registration. He stated that it would fund her inspections. He then said that it's up to the Commissioners and she agreed that it is. She said that she hears both sides to the story. Mrs. Scheurich stated that the City of Rensselaer and the Town of DeMotte both have it. Mr. Bontreger stated that Assessor Hoffman mentioned that she and Mrs. Scheurich have been sharing information. She said that the assessor has found things that have been built without a permit so she requires that they get one. So far, everyone has. Mr. Bontreger asked her if she does a retro inspection and she said she usually does. Mr. Price asked what would happen if she found something dangerous or not to code and she said she would make the homeowner have it corrected. She said she's had a few this year that have had to change window sizes in sleeping areas and smoke detectors missing or not hard-wired. Mr. Price asked if fees keep going up, will we be able to afford a part-time building inspector, that way she could attend training sessions that she's now unable to, due to having to run the office. She was unsure.

COUNCIL BUDGET: Auditor Grow stated that the only other budget that has not been looked at is the Council's, which just has the salaries and the Attorney. She said that she put a 10% raise on the request.

CAGIT CERTIFIED SHARES: Auditor Grow stated that there was not a budget for certified shares. She said it's in with the insurance budget. Mr. Bontreger asked what value she set for solid waste and she replied \$3,750,000. She said it worked great this year. There was enough money to cover all the cuts they needed to make.

**BUDGET MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 19, 2016**

She stated that the number she's heard from Jack and Dan regarding the health insurance is that claims are down 20% this year. We will be having an Executive Session on September 12, 2016 with Key Benefit Administrators.

Mr. Jordan made a motion to continue to Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. Mr. DeVries seconded and motion carried.

**CONTINUED MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 23, 2016**

The Jasper County Council met this date at 8:30 A.M. C.S.T. in the Commissioner's Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Rein Bontreger, Gerrit H. DeVries, John T. Price, Andrew Andree, Stephen Jordan, Gary Fritts and Paul Norwine. Also present was Kimberly K. Grow, Jasper County Auditor, and Tina Porter, Deputy Auditor. Mr. Bontreger called the meeting to order.

Mr. Andree made a motion to approve a transfer for the Weed Board in the amount of \$2,000. Mr. DeVries seconded and the motion carried.

Budget cuts were discussed.

Mr. Price made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fritts seconded and the motion carried.

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Rein O. Bontreger, President

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Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County